

AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK

June 1984

Economic Research Service
United States Department of Agriculture



Farm Income Update

AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK

June 1984/AO-99



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Net cash income for 1984 is expected to range from \$34 to \$38 billion, down from last year's estimated \$39 to \$41 billion. Gross cash income will go up, reflecting higher receipts from crops and livestock. However, gains in receipts will be offset by rising production expenses, as more acres are seeded and input prices climb again.

The net farm income forecast, \$30 to \$34 billion, is well above last year's level but slightly below the \$31 to \$36 billion previously projected. Much of the gain will probably be due to a buildup in inventories. In 1983, the value of inventories was cut by the drought's effect on yields and the drop in harvested acres. This year, improved yields and more planted acres will likely boost inventories substantially.

Early forecasts of crop production point to increases of 50 to 75 percent each for feed grains, rice, and cotton. Soybean output may increase about 30 percent. Only a slight gain in wheat production is likely, since the 1984 PIK program will hold down acreage. While larger crop production will pressure prices this fall, price strength early in the year and greater second-half marketings will raise 1984 crop receipts.



Reduced meat output and rising consumer incomes should bolster livestock prices in the second half, giving many livestock and poultry producers an increase in cash receipts. However, some farmers remain financially stressed this year.

The PIK program has given the farm economy a boost, but farm income has been dampened by high interest rates, declining export markets, and the 1981-83 recession. Nominal U.S. farm-land values dropped 1 percent during April 1983-March 1984, after falling 6 percent the year before.

Growth in the world economy is contributing to improved agricultural trade this year. U.S. agricultural exports in fiscal 1984 are forecast at \$38 billion, a 9-percent increase from last year. However, the growth is due to higher prices. At 142 million metric tons, U.S. farm export volume is expected to slip slightly from last year. Decreased shipments of oilseeds and products account for most of the decline.

U.S. beef and citrus exports to Japan will increase under terms of a new trade agreement reached in April. Under the accord, Japan will raise import quotas for high-quality beef by 6,900 tons annually over the next 4 years. Imports of grapefruit juice, now set at 6,000 tons a year, will not face any quota after 1986. Imports of orange juice, though, will continue to increase only 500 tons a year—the same as before.

Transportation services will be adequate for this year's projected large vegetable crop. However, truck rates for produce during the first 4 months of 1984 averaged 12-13 percent above the same period last year. Rates are expected to continue to rise during peak vegetable harvest months.



Agricultural Economy

The outlook for the farm sector has improved somewhat with the rise in farm prices since the middle of last year, while reduced inflationary pressures have helped moderate production cost increases. Also, increased business activity is giving a lift to consumer demand for meat.

Much Larger Crops Likely for Feed Grains, Rice, Cotton

Fall harvests will have a major impact on farmers' incomes and their financial situation. However, the size of 1984 crops will not be known for several months as farmers are just completing spring planting. Seeded acreage will jump because much of the land idled last year under PIK and other Government programs will be brought back into production.

Early forecasts of crop production, based on normal weather, point to likely increases of 50 to 75 percent for feed grains, rice, and cotton. Soybean output may increase about 30 percent. Only a slight gain in wheat production is likely as the 1984 PIK program will hold down acreage. Also, yields were high last year because wheat was harvested before the full impact of the drought hit. While larger crop production will pressure crop prices this fall, price strength early in the year and stronger second-half marketings will raise 1984 crop receipts.

Farm Income Prospects Mixed

The outlook for farm income is mixed. Net farm income in 1984 is forecast to rise to \$30 to \$34 billion, with much of the gain due to the expected buildup in farm inventories. On the other hand, net cash income is forecast between \$34 and \$38 billion, down from last year. Gross cash income will rise, reflecting higher receipts from crops and livestock. Direct Government payments will remain large, mainly because a sizable portion of the 1983 PIK payments were dispersed this year. But gains in receipts will be offset by rising production expenses, as more acres are seeded this year and as input prices again rise in line with the general inflation rate.

Farmers respond to prices, output, and income when they make major changes in their operations. So, recent experience is reflected in land prices and in who is buying and selling acreage. Land values declined by 6 percent in 1982, but nearly stabilized in 1983 as weather and farm programs began to increase crop prices. Land values continued to decline in much of the Midwest and Southeast, but held steady or increased in many States in other regions. Land values will vary regionally this year because of differences in returns for various commodities and turnover rates in farmland. Nevertheless, national average land values are not expected to change significantly.

Financial Stress For Some Producers

Continued financial stress for some farmers will keep the number of producers leaving the sector above average in 1984. Farm debt is forecast to rise only 3 percent—much slower than the 15-percent growth rate of the late 1970's. Greater demand for operating and intermediate-term credit because of expanded acreages will spur the increase. A conservative financial approach by farmers and lenders will likely continue well into next year.

Many highly leveraged farmers have been accumulating losses for the past several years as low farm prices and a sluggish economy have taken their toll. Rather surprisingly, owners of smaller farms are often in better financial shape as they typically have large off-farm incomes to help with debt repayment. More often it's those larger farms which are highly leveraged that are having severe financial

problems. High interest rates, along with low farm prices, have reduced their cash flow and hampered debt repayment. Recent higher direct Government payments and lower production expenses stabilized net income, but many farmers must restructure their debts and assets to return to long-term profitability.

Higher livestock prices in the second half of 1984 resulting from reduced meat output and rising consumer incomes will give many livestock and poultry producers an opportunity to work down debt loads. But parts of the farm sector remain financially stressed this year and it may take several years of strong farm prices for a full financial recovery. [Donald Seaborg (202) 447-8376]

LIVESTOCK HIGHLIGHTS

• Cattle

Severe weather patterns have plagued cattle producers since last summer. The cumulative effects of the weather reduced cattlemen's options as the second quarter began. Drought conditions continued to restrict range forage supplies in western Texas, and spread into Arizona and New Mexico. The Rocky Mountain and Northern Plains States were hampered during late April by severe snowstorms that caused increased supplemental feeding and delayed spring grazing. The storms also caused large livestock death losses in Wyoming, Montana, and the Dakotas.

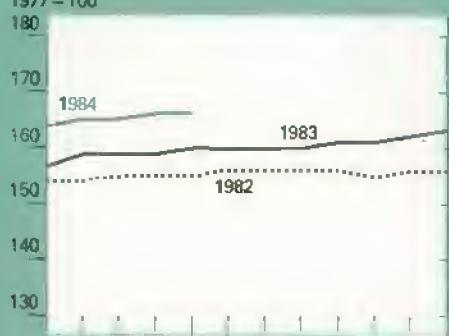
Range and pasture conditions on May 1 were reported as less favorable than a year earlier in 28 States, more favorable in 18 States, and the same in only 2 States. Because of the severe weather, producers have continued feeding hay, further reducing available hay stocks. Stocks on May 1 totaled 20.6 million tons, down 29 percent from a year earlier and the lowest for the date since 1975.

Cow slaughter remained high in areas where producers reduced their herds because of limited forage. Total cow slaughter was 18 percent above a year earlier in April. However, dairy cow slaughter continued to decline from the large January levels and most of the increase in slaughter came from the beef cow herd.

Prime Indicators of the Agricultural Economy

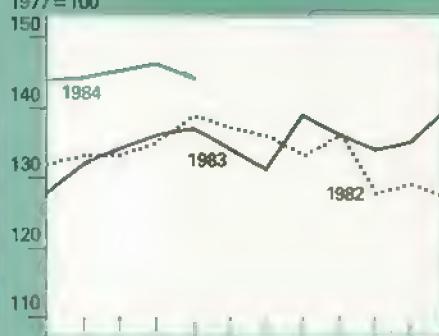
Prices paid by farmers¹

1977 = 100



Prices received by farmers²

1977 = 100

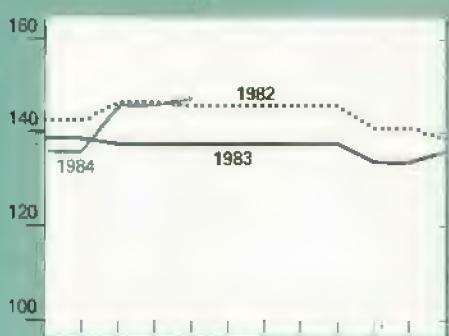


Ratio of prices received to prices paid

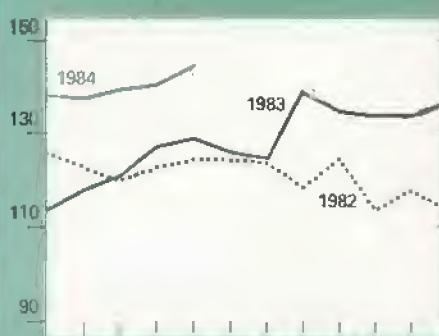
Percent



Fertilizer prices



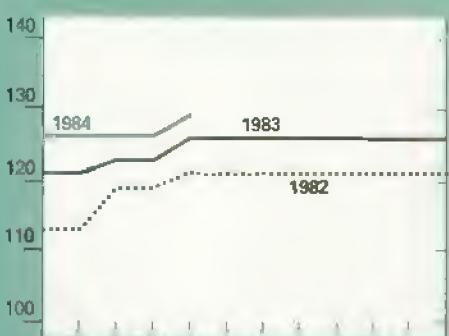
All crops



Livestock and products



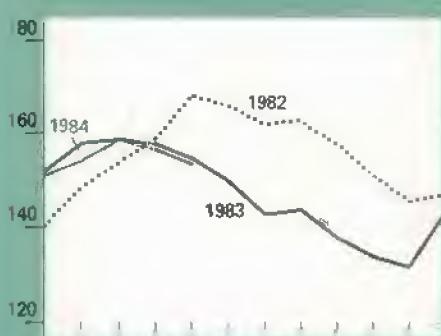
Agricultural chemicals



Food grains



Meat animals



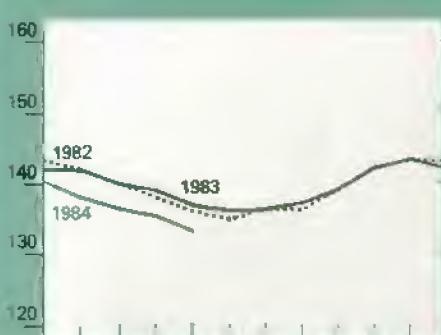
Tractors and self-propelled machinery



Feed grains and hay



Dairy products



¹For commodities and services, interest, taxes, and wages.

All series except "Ratio of Prices Received to Prices Paid" are indexes based on 1977 = 100.

²For all farm products

Cow slaughter should decline sharply in the latter half of the second quarter with improved weather and increased forage supplies. Producers have indicated plans to harvest an additional 2 million acres of hay to replenish stocks. Beef supplies have remained above a year ago because of increased slaughter during the first half of the quarter. Beef production in April was 3 percent above the same period last year.

With decreasing cow slaughter, nonfed slaughter will fall off sharply during the last half of the quarter. But, fed cattle marketing will remain above a year earlier, because of larger inventories of cattle in feedlots on April 1. The number of cattle placed on feed in the 7 major cattle-feeding States during April was 3 percent below a year ago, while fed cattle marketings were up 4 percent. The number of cattle on feed in 7 reporting States on May 1 was 2 percent above a year earlier, with most cattle feeding activity in California, Arizona, and Texas.

Even though beef production has remained above a year ago during the second quarter, prices of Choice steers and retail beef have been relatively stable since February. Packer demand for fed cattle has been strong, preventing a bottleneck of overfinished animals. Omaha Choice steers averaged \$67.86 per cwt in April, down only about 75 cents from March. Choice carcass prices dropped somewhat during late April, but this was primarily due to slackened beef demand during the Easter season. Beef prices throughout the marketing channel were also supported by declining pork production.

As beef and other red meat production falls below a year earlier during second-half 1984, current cattle prices will probably be sustained. Because of higher feed costs this spring, fewer cattle may be placed on feed during the second quarter. As a result, fed cattle slaughter probably will decline this fall, contributing to lower beef supplies during the second half. [John Naliwka (202) 447-8636]

• Hogs

Hog prices in mid-May at the 7 major markets remained in the high \$40's per cwt, as they have been since late

March. Since early April, slaughter rates have been slightly below a year earlier. However, wholesale and retail pork prices were pressured by burdensome cold storage stocks and larger year-over-year beef supplies. Pork in cold storage on May 1 totaled 388 million pounds, 42 percent more than a year ago. Beef production was up moderately, largely because of increased slaughter of cows and nonfed cattle, which compete more directly with pork than fed beef.

Returns to the average farrow-to-finish hog producer remained below breakeven as feed costs continued high. However, the January-April surge in feeder pig prices boosted returns for Corn Belt feeder pig producers above breakeven for the first time since mid-1983. But, feeder pig producers outside the Corn Belt failed to reach breakeven because of higher feed costs. Feeder pig producers account for about one-fifth of U.S. hog production. With generally poor returns and high feed costs, hog producers are not expected to begin expanding their breeding inventories until the corn crop is harvested this fall.

Second-quarter slaughter is forecast to be down 2 to 4 percent from a year earlier. High feeding costs are discouraging producers from feeding hogs to heavier weights this year. Thus, commercial production during April-June is expected to total 3.6 million pounds, down 4 percent from last year.

For the third quarter, hog slaughter may be 13 to 15 percent below last year, when producers began liquidating their breeding herds. In spite of the high feed costs, the average dressed slaughter weight may be a little heavier than last year's 171 pounds. Therefore, commercial pork production is expected to total 3.2 million pounds, down 13 percent from last year.

Barrow and gilt prices at the 7 major markets averaged about \$48 per cwt in April and May, but prices are expected to rally in June as production declines seasonally and on a year-over-year basis. For the entire second quarter, hog prices may average \$49 to \$51 per cwt, up about \$3 from last year.

Third-quarter hog prices are expected to average \$57 to \$63, compared with \$47 last year. A moderate decline in beef production, along with a strong economy, will strengthen prices. On the other hand, consumers may show some resistance if retail pork prices rise too fast, dampening hog price increases. [Leland W. Southard (202) 447-8636]

• Broilers

The number of broiler eggs set in the 19 weekly reporting States during April and May was 4 to 6 percent above comparable weeks last year. However, last year at this time producers were beginning to cut future production because broiler prices were low relative to production costs.

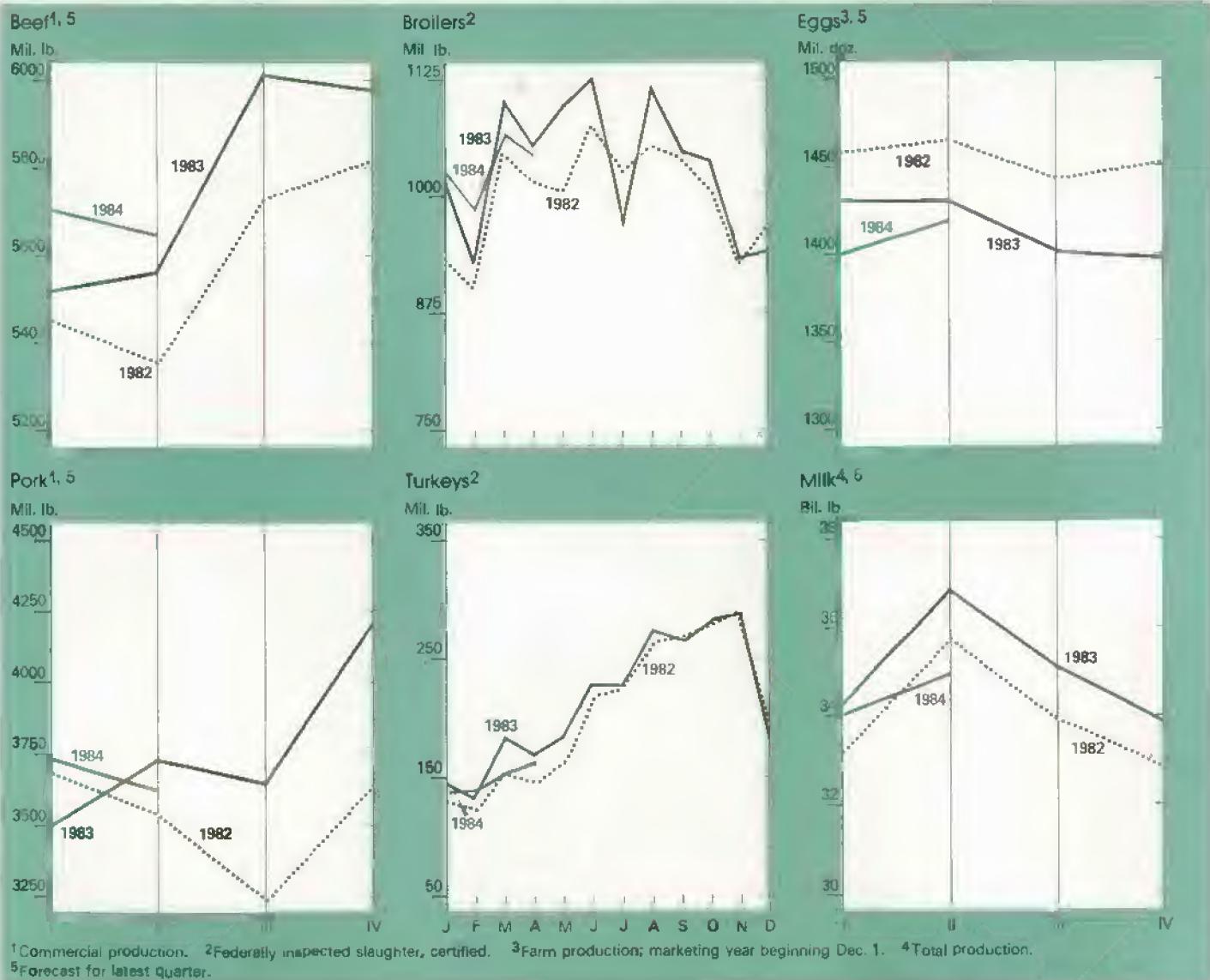
The number of broiler chicks hatched for second-quarter slaughter was 1 percent above 1983. Since birds are being slaughtered at slightly heavier weights this year, production of broiler meat in federally inspected plants could be 1 to 2 percent above the 3,276 million pounds produced in second-quarter 1983. With additional eggs being set for third-quarter production, output then may be 3 to 4 percent above the 3,135 million pounds produced in third-quarter 1983.

Wholesale broiler prices usually strengthen by mid-May in response to additional demand for outdoor cooking and picnics. Composite prices in the 12 reporting cities are expected to average 56 to 58 cents per pound during the second quarter, sharply above last year's 46 cents. During May, prices averaged 58 cents, 11 higher than last year. In third-quarter 1984, broiler production may be above last year, which would depress prices. However, pork production is expected to be below a year ago, adding some strength to broiler prices. Prices may slip slightly from the second quarter to 57 to 61 cents per pound, but remain above last year's 54 cents. [Allen J. Baker (202) 447-8636]

• Turkeys

Weak prices since February have caused turkey producers to reduce the number of pouls placed for third-quarter production. In addition, the number of turkey breeder hen flocks has been reduced because of avian flu. Egg availability may also be limiting the number of pouls hatched. The number of turkeys raised per breeder hen has been generally increasing: 44 in 1980, 49 in 1981, 48 in 1982, and 54

Supplies Update: Livestock and Products



in 1983. Therefore, any unplanned reduction in turkey hens, such as an eradication program in response to avian flu, could seriously affect the amount of eggs available for hatching.

The number of poult placed for domestic production was down 3 percent in both March and April. Therefore, during the third quarter, turkey meat output is expected to be down 1 percent from the 759 million pounds produced in third-quarter 1983. Second-quarter output may be 1 percent above 1983's 582 million pounds, because poult placed for second-quarter slaughter were up from last year.

A late Easter left May 1 cold storage stocks of frozen turkeys down 26 percent from last year. Stocks increased from March to April. Stocks could be rebuilt for fourth-quarter use, but higher interest rates, and therefore lower profits, could reduce the incentive to hold them. Higher interest rates may also limit production in the third quarter and boost slaughter in the fourth.

April prices of 8- to 16-pound hen turkeys in New York averaged 67 cents

per pound, up from 57 cents a year earlier. Second-quarter 1984 prices are expected to average 66-68 cents, up from 57 cents in second-quarter 1983. Because of slightly lower production of turkey and red meat in the third quarter, prices may average 66 to 72 cents, compared with 60 last year. [Allen J. Baker (202) 447-8636]

• Eggs

Last year, producers cut back hen inventories even before Easter. However, with Easter falling late this year, farmers held their hens longer to provide the needed egg supplies. On May 1, the number of hens was 1 percent above last year.

Although producers cut layer inventories early in 1983, the outbreak of avian flu further reduced numbers, resulting in stronger egg prices and retention of more old hens in the flock. By keeping the older hens, producers returned layer numbers to near year-earlier levels, but the hens were less productive and the rate of lay declined. The flock has regained its productivity now, though; on May 1, eggs per layer were above last year.

Second-quarter egg production is expected to be 1 percent above second-quarter 1983's 1,405 million dozen. During the third quarter, production may be up 2 percent from the 1,399 million dozen produced in third-quarter 1983.

During May, prices of cartoned Grade A large eggs delivered to stores in New York averaged 76 cents per dozen, up from the 70 cents of last year but down sharply from first-quarter 1984's \$1.03. Prices were seasonally strong until after Easter, but between late April and early May they adjusted, dropping 30 cents. During the second quarter, prices are expected to average 83 to 85 cents per dozen, up from 69 last year. Despite production increases, a stronger economy may strengthen prices in the third quarter to an average of 76 to 79 cents, near last year's 74 cents. [Allen J. Baker (202) 447-8636]

• Dairy

Total milk production during calendar 1984 is expected to decline 3 to 5 percent from last year's record 140 billion pounds (63.5 million metric tons). The lower output will result primarily from reduced marketing by participants in the dairy diversion program. However, increased feed costs and lower milk prices will also affect output of both participants and nonparticipants.

Milk production in 1983 was 3.1 percent larger than a year earlier, as cow numbers rose 0.8 percent and output per cow climbed 2.3 percent. During January-April 1984—the first 4 months of the diversion period—production was 0.9 percent below a year earlier. Adjusted for leap year, output was down 1.7 percent.

The dairy cow herd declined by 314,000 head from November 1983 to April 1984, a 2.8-percent drop. Cow numbers are down 2.1 percent from a year earlier and are expected to decline further in 1984, resulting in a yearly decrease of 3 to 4 percent. Output per cow is expected to be unchanged to down 1 percent because some producers are cutting marketing through reduced feeding and fewer milkings. Production per cow in April declined 0.4 percent from last year.

Prices received by U.S. farmers for all milk during January-April averaged \$13.33 per cwt, 40 cents below a year earlier. Prices are expected to strengthen by yearend, but annual prices probably will average 10 to 30 cents below 1983's \$13.57. The effective all-milk price (adjusted for differences in deductions) may decline 20 to 40 cents. [Clifford M. Carman (202) 447-8636]

CROP HIGHLIGHTS

• Wheat

After a final modification to the 1984 acreage reduction program (ARP), farmers increased their enrollment from 63 to 61 percent of the total wheat base. At the earlier participation level, land enrolled included 57 percent of the winter wheat base and 68 percent of the Durum and other spring wheat base. With the increased signup in late April-early May, farmers enrolled another 7 million acres. The changes to the initial ARP were made in the Agricultural Programs Adjustment Act of 1984.

In all, 21 million acres are expected to be idled in 1984, compared with over 28 million in 1983. This year's 1984 minimum reduction is 30 percent of base acreage for participants, compared with 1983's 20 percent. This will mean more acres idled under the ARP and cash land diversion (CLD) program than were idled under the ARP last year.

However, the 1984 PIK option was reduced to a maximum of 20 percent of base, and eligibility was tightened—this year a participant has to provide the wheat that will be used for his PIK payment. So PIK acreage is likely to total only 3.6 million acres, compared with 1983's 17 million. The modifications made in the Adjustment Act raised payment from 75 to 85 percent of the established base yield, a change that appears to have increased the final signup.

Over Sixty Percent of Base Enrolled in Wheat Program

Wheat class	Enrollment		
	Final base	Initial	Final
	Million acres		
Winter	72.2	34.6	40.8
Spring	21.7	15.4	16.2
Total	93.9	50.0	57.0

The combined 1984 winter and spring wheat crops are forecast at 2.55 billion bushels, 262 million under 1982's record. Stocks going into the 1984/85 marketing year are estimated at only 149 million bushels below the 1.54 billion of last June 1. This means wheat growers can expect little relief from low prices in 1984/85. The expected increase in 1984's production will offset the stock drop and will maintain total supplies at a near-record 3.9 billion bushels. This suggests prices could be near loan rates, unless demand increases unexpectedly. However, in late May, new-crop (July) futures prices strengthened in response to stronger corn and soybean prices and concern over the effect of poor weather on foreign wheat.

For world wheat, 1984/85 is expected to resemble the previous 2 years: record global production and consumption with near-record ending stocks. Exportable supplies in the five major wheat exporters as a group (the United States, Canada, Argentina, the EC, and Australia) are anticipated to be records. U.S. export prices could fall for the fourth consecutive year, because of large world surpluses and a lower U.S. loan rate.

Several million tons of weather-damaged or feed-quality wheat were traded in 1983/84. Australia sold the largest amount, over 1.5 million tons. To help meet domestic feed requirements, South Africa bought 400,000 tons, its largest purchase of feed wheat in 15 years. Sales of lower quality wheat are likely to continue this summer: Australia plans to sell an additional half-million tons, and the EC, 1 million tons of denatured wheat.

The major wheat exporters will struggle to maintain their market shares in 1984/85. Canada will likely increase sales about a half million tons.

whereas export volume in Argentina will fall. Because Argentina made large shipments during December 1983-June 1984, it has little left to ship in the upcoming July-November period. Last year, Argentina shipped 2.4 million tons during July-November. Australia's exports could increase about 2 million tons. The EC will be pressured to increase exports also, because of an increase in exportable supplies. Collectively, exports by the major foreign suppliers are expected to increase about 1.5 million tons to a record 59.5 million.

The U.S. export forecast for 1984/85 stands at 36.7 million tons, down 1.4 million from last year. The U.S. share of world wheat exports may fall slightly from 1983/84's 38 percent, and it will be well below the record 48 percent in 1981/82. [Allen Schienbein (202) 447-8444 and Bradley Karmen (202) 447-8879]

• Rice

Rice supplies in 1984/85 are expected to rebound to near the 1982/83 levels, reaching 194 million cwt. Carryin stocks will make up about one-fifth of supplies. Production is expected to increase 50 percent from this season's PIK-reduced level, going from 100 to 150 million cwt. Domestic use will likely continue a slight upward trend, reaching 62 million cwt.

U.S. rice exports for 1984/85 are forecast at 62 million cwt, the same as for 1983/84. Thus, for the first time since 1961/62, exports are not expected to outpace domestic use. With total disappearance unlikely to improve significantly from the current season, carryover at the end of 1984/85 may bulge to more than 60 million cwt, pushing the stocks-to-use ratio to over 45 percent, compared with 18 percent averaged during 1978-80. Season average prices for 1984/85 are forecast at \$7.75 to \$9.25 a cwt.

World rough rice production in 1983/84 is forecast at 445 million tons, sharply above last year's record 420 million. Rice trade in calendar 1984 will probably be about the same as last year, with reduced trade in several import-

ing countries being offset by increased Indian purchases. India has bought large quantities of rice this year because drought cut its 1982/83 crop. India usually imports wheat when a cereal shortfall exists, but it has purchased rice at relatively favorable prices this year. Indonesian imports are expected to fall from nearly 1.2 million tons in 1983 to 700,000 this year, because domestic supplies are larger.

Thai rice export prices are about \$255 a ton, well below the \$450 U.S. price. Because of this differential, Thai exports in 1984 may reach a record 3.85 million tons, while U.S. volume will likely fall to 2 million, the lowest since 1976.

The first USDA forecast of world rice production for 1984/85 is 448 million tons, slightly above the 1983/84 record. World ending stocks may fall for the sixth consecutive year, as some foreign producers continue to reduce excess stocks. Trade in 1984/85 is likely to be slightly below the current level. [Barbara C. Stucker (202) 447-8444 and Bradley Karmen (202) 447-8879]

• Feed Grains

The U.S. corn crop is projected at 7.8 billion bushels for 1984, nearly double 1983. Combined with carryover stocks of 0.5 billion, the crop would bring 1984/85 supply to 8.3 billion, about a billion larger than this season and nearly the same as in 1980/81. Use is expected to rise 6 percent to about 7.2 billion bushels, leaving carryover stocks in 1985 slightly over 1.1 billion. The doubling of stocks implies somewhat lower farm prices than during the current year, but supplies will likely be tight enough to yield a season-average price of \$2.65-\$3.20 a bushel—10 to 65 cents above the national average loan rate.

The grain-consuming animal units on farms in 1984/85 are expected to total 75.6 million, down 3-4 percent from this year. Most of the decrease will result from fewer hogs raised, but dairy producers and cattle feeders will also reduce their animal numbers. With lower grain prices expected, feed and residual use of corn is forecast to rise slightly.

Food, seed, and industrial (FSI) use of corn will account for about 14 percent of total use in 1984/85, compared with

8 percent a decade ago. Pending legislation on gasoline taxes could give fuel alcohol sales a further boost.

April 1 stocks of feed grains totaled 104.4 million tons, down 81.3 million from last year's record. Unless prices rise substantially more, about 12.5 million tons of these stocks will be unavailable to the market—including 6.6 million tons of corn, sorghum, and barley owned by the Commodity Credit Corporation and 5.9 million of sorghum and barley in the farmer-owned reserve.

April 1 corn stocks, at less than 3.3 billion bushels, were the lowest for that date since 1976. Corn use during April-September is expected to total 2.7 billion bushels, leaving carryover stocks of 520 million—again, the lowest since 1976. Free stocks, including reserve stocks, will be less than 345 million bushels. FSI use and exports are expected to total about 1.4 billion bushels, 2 percent above a year earlier. Feed and residual use will most likely be about 1.3 billion bushels, 24 percent under last year. Second-half prices are expected to pull the season average up to \$3.25 a bushel, 21 percent above 1982/83.

Global production of coarse grains in 1984/85 likely will rebound significantly from 1983/84. Along with an improved U.S. corn crop in prospect, Canadian and EC barley production is expected to return to more normal levels, and the South African corn crop may increase with better weather.

Larger world output will likely result in lower corn prices, which will in turn boost coarse grain trade. Lower corn prices, coupled with uncertainty as to whether the EC and Australia will export wheat for feed, indicate increased volume this year for coarse grain trade.

World coarse grain production in 1983/84, estimated in May at over 686 million metric tons, is 99 million (13 percent) below 1982/83's record. However, foreign production, estimated at 548 million tons, is almost 20 million larger than a year earlier. The bulk of the increase came from the unusually large 1983 Soviet harvest (105 million tons), a record Chinese output, and a

substantial gain in Australian production. Australian output is estimated at 9.7 million tons, up over 150 percent from the disastrous 1982/83 outturn.

Global utilization for the season may be about 4 million tons over 1982/83. However, feed use is estimated to fall 2 percent to only 450 million tons. In contrast, feed use in 1982/83 rose 3 percent. An 18-million-ton drop in 1983/84 U.S. feed use more than offsets a 6-million-ton increase in foreign feed use.

Global exports, exclusive of intra-EC trade, are estimated at almost 92 million tons for 1983/84, up marginally over the previous year, but still 7 percent below 1981/82.

For the major coarse grain-importing countries, 1983/84 looks very much like the previous year, except for China and the Soviet Union. China's coarse grain imports dropped from 2.5 million tons in 1982/83 to only 0.2 million this year, because of record production. Prospects for large Chinese purchases next season are slim. However, the prospects for increased Soviet purchases of U.S. corn are good.

(Larry Van Meir (202) 447-8776 and Jim Cole (202) 447-8857)

• Oilseeds

Central Illinois soybean prices were \$8.80 a bushel in late May—up \$1.00 from May 1. The April 1 stocks report and year-to-date crushings imply that season-ending stocks could be extremely tight; they are forecast at 105 million bushels, barely 5 percent of projected use. Prices reflect the low supplies.

Soybean crush is forecast at 970 million bushels for 1983/84 (950 million on an October-September year). Since last October, monthly crushings have been below a year earlier. Soybean oil prices averaged 32 cents a pound in April, then increased to over 41 cents in late May. This rise shows how tight the oil market is; earlier, supplies of corn oil, palm oil, and animal fats kept a lid on prices. With supplies of these alternative sources expected to be tighter this summer, continued high prices will be needed to ration use.

The soybean meal market probably will not experience similarly strong prices. Livestock producers have responded to higher feed costs and poor returns by cutting production.

Reduced livestock inventories, particularly hogs, suggest that soybean meal prices could be lower during the remainder of 1983/84 than the \$204.70-per-ton season average through April. Prices before February were around \$208 per ton, but during February-May they fell to \$180-\$190.

A rebound in soybean acreage is likely in 1984. Production could exceed 2 billion bushels with normal yields. But, with beginning stocks of only 105 million bushels, 1984/85 soybean supplies still will be moderately tight. The season average price is likely to be \$6.00-\$8.50 a bushel during 1984/85.

Cottonseed oil prices climbed to 45 cents a pound by late May, nearly 15 cents above the April average. The tight oil situation is affecting cottonseed oil as it has soybean oil. Cottonseed carryover for 1983/84 is projected at a tight 200,000 tons, only about half of beginning stocks.

Sunflowerseed ending stocks are expected to be 120,000 metric tons this season. These low stocks would be consistent with the tight situation in oilseeds. Prices for sunflowerseed could average \$300 a metric ton, a 50-percent rise.

World production of oilseeds in 1984/85 is forecast at 182 million tons, roughly 10 percent above the reduced 1983/84 output. Most of the gain is expected in the United States, although foreign production may expand slightly. Canada's rapeseed crop should increase in response to higher prices. China's oilseed production will probably stay at or near 1983/84 levels. Early estimates of South American soybean production call for only small gains, if yields are more normal in Argentina.

The 1983/84 world oilseed production estimate in May was 165.4 million tons. The soybean estimate was raised 0.9 million, mainly because of an expected rise in Argentina's crop to 5.8 million tons.

The U.S. will have larger exportable supplies of soybeans and meal in 1984/85, but world oil supplies may remain near this year's level. U.S. soybean exports for 1984/85 are projected at 22.7 million tons, soybean meal at 5.7 million, and soybean oil at 0.7 million. Forecast increases in EC demand for soybeans or meal are based on the change in the soybean meal-corn price ratio, which could remain favorable to meal use. Soviet soybean meal demand in 1984/85 will be a major element in the world oilseed market; increased Soviet imports in order to improve feeding efficiency are expected.

U.S. exports of soybeans for 1983/84 are estimated to be 20.7 million tons, a 16-percent decline from 1982/83 but above 1981/82. Nevertheless, the estimate is above April's because of stronger import demand, especially by Mexico. The soybean meal export estimate is 4.9 million tons; exports as of March 1984 were 18 percent below a year earlier. The combined export estimate for Brazil and Argentina is slightly higher than last year. U.S. soybean oil exports for 1983/84 are estimated at 750,000 tons. [Roger Hoskin (202) 447-8776 and Jan Lipson (202) 447-8855]

• Cotton

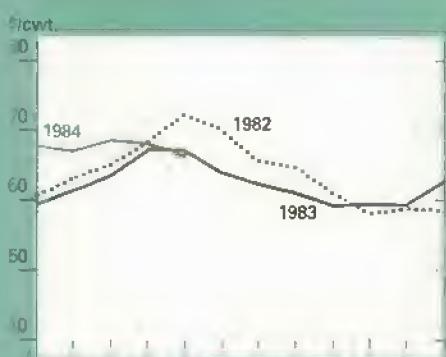
Production is forecast at 10-13 million bales in 1984, with 11.5 million bales most likely. With estimated beginning stocks of only 2.9 million bales, supplies will be moderately tight in 1984/85. Although total use is expected to fall, carryover stocks may rise to only 3.2 million bales by August 1985.

U.S. yields during 1979-83 averaged 515 pounds per harvested acre. The Delta and Southeast have been unusually wet this spring, and Texas needs rain, but average or better yields are still possible across the belt.

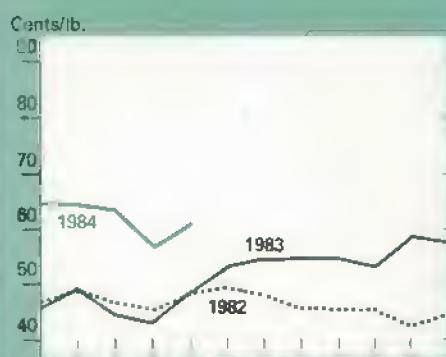
Mill use will climb an estimated 7 percent during 1983/84 to 5.9 million

Commodity Market Prices: Monthly Update

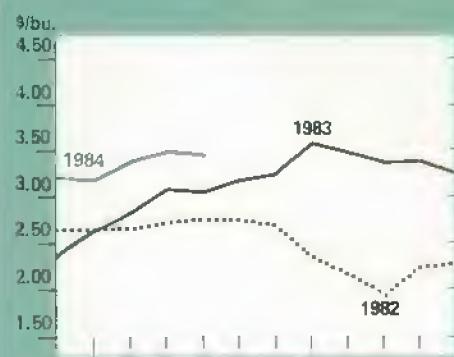
Choice steers¹



Broilers⁴



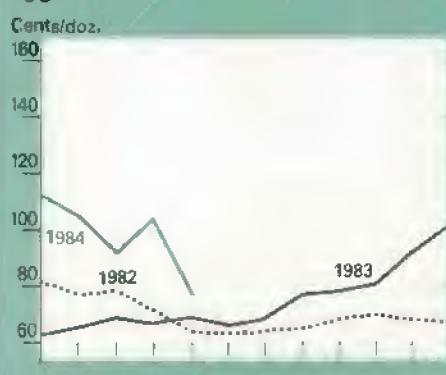
Corn⁶



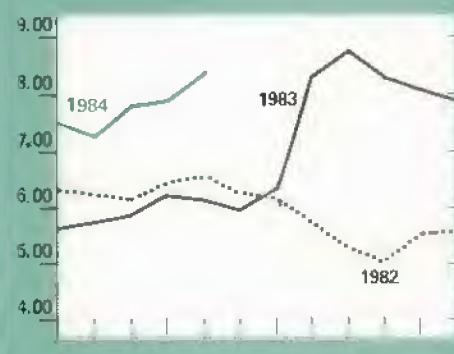
Choice feeder cattle²



Eggs⁵



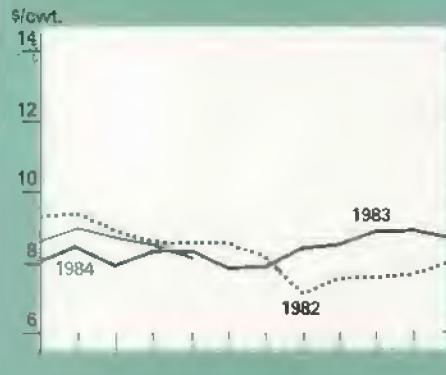
Soybeans⁷



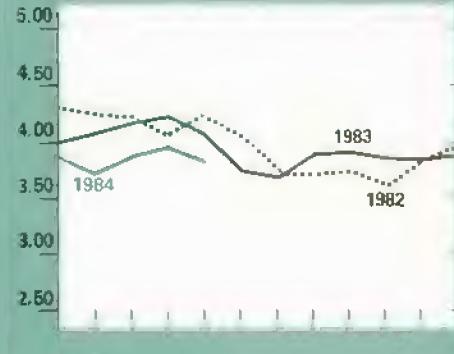
Barrows and gilts³



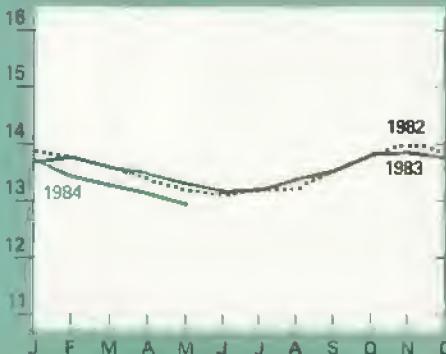
Rice (rough)



Wheat⁸



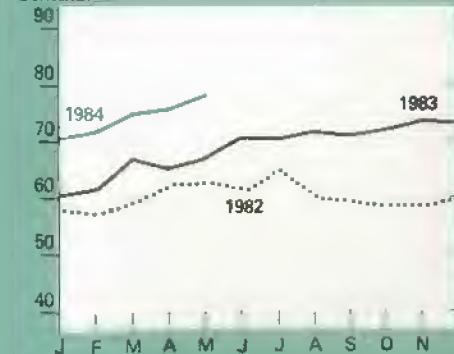
All milk



Sorghum grain



Cotton⁹



Prices for most recent month are mid-month prices.
1Omaha. 2600-700 lbs., Kansas City. 37 markets.

4Wholesale, New York. 5Grade A Large, New York.
6No. 2 Yellow, Chicago. 7No. 1 Yellow, Chicago.
8No. 1 HRW, Kansas City.

9Average spot market, SLM, 1-16."

bales. Rising consumer incomes and a rebuilding of inventories help explain the improvement. However, mill use could decline 3 percent during 1984/85, to 5.7 million bales, as the economy slows and textile inventories are replenished.

World cotton production may increase 9 percent in 1984/85, reaching a record 73.5 million bales. The expected gain in the U.S. accounts for most of the anticipated increase, but an improved harvest in Pakistan and continued rebound in Mexico may pull foreign production up about 4 percent. Chinese output is also expected to be strong.

Improved economic conditions could bring global mill use to a record 71.2 million bales, 2 million higher than this year. All of the gain is expected to come in foreign countries. However, since major producing countries are likely to increase consumption more than importing nations, world trade is projected to edge up only slightly, to 19.0 million bales. Of this, exports by foreign countries are expected to rebound to about 13.5 million, from this year's reduced level of 11.8 million.

U.S. exports for 1984/85, constrained by available supplies in China, Pakistan, and Mexico, are expected to decline to about 5.5 million bales. This will lower the U.S. trade share to 29 percent, compared with this year's 37 percent.

World stocks next season are expected to rise by 2.2 million bales; even though demand is growing, it is likely to fall short of the sharp production increase. Most of the stock gain is projected to come in foreign countries.

Because of strong sales and shipments, the estimate of 1983/84 U.S. cotton exports has been raised to 7.0 million bales. Also, Chinese production is now estimated at a record 21.3 million bales, up 29 percent from last year. [Terry Townsend (202) 447-8444 and Donnel O'Flynn (202) 382-9820]

• Peanuts

Contracts for additional peanuts had to be signed by April 15, and prices were strong. In the Southwest, prices averaged \$350-380 per ton. In the Southeast, where the bulk of the addi-

tional production occurs, most of the additional peanuts were contracted at \$400 or over.

The strong contract prices likely encouraged more acreage for additional peanuts than indicated by the February acreage intentions report. Because of weather problems, peanut plantings trailed normal levels in all States except Alabama. However, at this early stage yield prospects have not been lowered. With a normal yield, 1984 production could exceed 1982 and 1983.

Domestic food use of peanuts in 1983/84 is estimated at 2,090 million pounds and will run about 80 percent of quota production. Seed, which also comes from quota production, will account for around 190 million pounds of domestic use. Crush of low-grade and surplus peanuts, including both quota and nonquota, will take about 380 million pounds, or nearly 12 percent of total production.

Exports for 1983/84 are estimated at 775 million pounds. Ending stocks are forecast at 700 million, down from 864 million a year ago. The tight supplies and strong demand for vegetable oils have resulted in higher prices; the season average for peanut oil is expected to be 47.5 cents per pound, compared with 25 cents during 1982/83. [Duane Hacklander (202) 447-8776]

• Tobacco

The May 9 crop report indicated that U.S. tobacco production totaled 1.43 billion pounds in 1983, down 28 percent from 1982. Production was down for every type except Connecticut Valley shade-grown. Despite the smaller crop, grower prices were off about 2 cents a pound from the previous year because of lower crop quality and weak demand.

Prices for 1983 Maryland tobacco averaged \$1.09 a pound during March-April auctions, 44 cents below 1982 and 66 cents below 1981. The drop reflected the lower quality 1983 crop and weak

demand. Also, Maryland tobacco does not have a Government price support program. The average price declined as the marketing season progressed.

For the year through June 1984, exports of unmanufactured tobacco are expected to be a little above 1982/83's 527 million pounds. During July 1983-March 1984, shipments rose 4 percent to 429 million pounds, while the average unit value of exports increased 7 percent. Exports of flue-cured during July-March were down 2 percent, while burley exports were up 37 percent. [Verner N. Grise (202) 447-8776]

• Fruit

Early-season forecasts indicate that 1984 will see bumper crops of most fruits and tree nuts. The first forecast for 1984 peach production in nine Southern States is 783 million pounds (355,000 metric tons), more than two-and-one-half times last year's crop and almost double 1982. Texas is the only State reporting a smaller crop.

The first forecast of California sweet cherry production is 36,000 tons (32,700 metric tons), more than double 1983 and triple 1982. Harvest of early varieties began in late April; harvest of Bing cherries began in early May. The 1984 California almond crop is estimated at 450 million pounds (204,000 metric tons), shelled basis, 88 percent more than 1983 and 10 percent above the 1981 record.

Meanwhile, estimates of the 1983/84 citrus crop continue to decline. The May estimate of oranges, 175 million boxes, was down 1 percent from April and 22 percent from last year's production. The grapefruit crop may be 12 percent below 1982/83 and the lemon crop 14 percent below. Florida's tangelo crop is expected to be 3.6 million boxes, 3 percent less than estimated in April and 5 percent less than the 1982/83 outturn. The Temple crop estimate remains at 2.9 million boxes, 38 percent below last season.

These reduced crops, combined with smaller supplies of frozen concentrated orange juice, mean that prices for both fresh and processed citrus will remain high through the 1983/84 crop year and possibly beyond, depending upon how badly the December 1983 freeze damaged trees.

The small citrus crops and reduced 1983 packs portend higher retail prices for canned fruits through 1984 and possibly to mid-1985. Production of major canned fruits in 1983 totaled only 29 million cases, 10 million less than a year earlier. Combined with carryover of only 13 million cases, the small pack brought 1983/84 supplies to only 42 million. Shipments are expected to come to nearly 38 million, leaving a carryover on June 1 of slightly less than 5 million cases. This year, canners expect to pack an estimated 8 million cases more than last. But, with the carryover down about 63 percent, supplies of the major items will total only a little more than 42 million cases, nearly 30 percent less than in 1982/83. [Ben Huang (202) 447-7290]

• Vegetables

First-quarter 1984 grower prices for all vegetables averaged 43 percent higher than a year earlier. But, April prices moderated because of increased supplies of celery, lettuce, and tomatoes from California, Arizona, and Florida.

Average grower prices for fresh carrots, celery, sweet corn, lettuce, onions, and tomatoes were higher during January-March 1984 than in the comparable 1983 period. Strong onion prices still reflect the December 1983 freeze's effects on yields.

First-quarter retail prices mirrored the higher grower prices. The Consumer Price Index for fresh vegetables (excluding potatoes) was 33 percent above a year earlier. Second-quarter retail prices should fall to 1983 levels if favorable weather sustains yields during June.

Tight supplies of most processed vegetables during the second quarter will buoy prices for canned peas, corn, and green beans. In major processing States planting is proceeding on schedule. The 1983 pack of frozen vegetables and potatoes was 5 percent below 1982, but an increase in 1984 processing acreage points to a larger pack this year.

Spring potato area is expected to be 84,600 acres, up 9 percent from last year. This will lead to a 26-percent increase in the spring crop, to 2.31 billion pounds. Greater production is expected from all the major growing areas. California, which produces about 46 percent of the total crop, will contribute 58 percent of the increase. Only a small gain is in sight for 1984 spring onion production, because of tight supplies of transplants and unfavorable harvest conditions in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas. [John Love (202) 447-7290]

• Sugar

U.S. cane sugar production for 1984/85 is forecast at 2.9 million tons, raw value, compared with 3.0 million for 1983/84. The Florida and Texas crops are expected to rebound from poor-weather production in 1983. However, Louisiana's stubble (ratoon) crop was badly damaged by last December's freeze, and the State's 1984/85 production could be down 100,000 tons from last season. Good weather in Hawaii is expected to bring about another million-ton raw sugar total for that State.

Sugarbeet planting may be up about 3 percent in 1984, with a substantial increase in California. Beet sugar output for 1984/85 is forecast at 2.85 million tons, raw value, up more than 200,000 from 1983/84. U.S. beet and cane sugar production is projected to be between 5.4 and 6 million tons, compared with 5.6 million in 1983/84.

The Coca-Cola Company announced that as of May 15 it will allow as much as 100 percent high fructose corn syrup (HFCS) in the sweetener mix for its fountain cola, up from 75 percent. This decision could affect U.S. sugar displacement in 1983/84, but the effects may be limited by constraints on HFCS production capacity during the summer demand peak. Sugar consumption for 1983/84 continues to be estimated at 8.65 million tons (including sugar in blended products coming from Canada), about 300,000 below 1982/83. In 1984/85, U.S. sugar use is expected to fall to about 8.4 million tons.

The price for raw sugar (c.i.f. duty/fee-paid, New York) averaged 22

cents a pound in April, the same as in March. Wholesale refined sugar prices were stable in April, ranging between 29.6 and 32 cents. The U.S. retail price averaged 36.6 cents in April. Since February, prices for HFCS-55 (used in soft drinks) have risen almost a cent in some markets. Growing demand for HFCS is expected to strengthen prices further in the next several months.

The world price for raw sugar (f.o.b. Caribbean) averaged just below 6 cents a pound in April, down from 6.4 in March. World sugar consumption in 1983/84 is estimated at 95.7 million tons, about 1 million above estimated output. However, production is expected to rise above consumption in 1984/85, adding to already large stocks and keeping prices low. [Robert Barry (202) 447-7290]

Upcoming Crop Reporting Board Releases

The following list gives the release dates of the major Crop Reporting Board reports that will be issued by the time the July *Agricultural Outlook* comes off press.

June

14	Cattle on Feed
15	Milk Production
20	Catfish
	Vegetables
21	Grain Stocks
	Hogs & Pigs
22	Livestock Slaughter
	Cold Storage
	Eggs, Chickens, & Turkeys
25	Farm Production Expenditures—Summary
28	Acreage
29	Ag Prices—Monthly
	Ag Prices—Annual

July

2	Dairy Products
	Egg Products
	Poultry Slaughter
5	Noncitrus Fruits & Nuts—Midyear
6	Celery
9	Mink
10	Crop Production
12	Turkey Hatchery
16	Milk Production
	Vegetables

Reports available through subscription only. For subscription information, write or call Jerry Clampet, SRS-Crop Reporting Board, Rm. 5809-South Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20250; (202) 447-2130.



Farm Income Update

The 1984 farm income picture will be shaped by stronger crop and livestock prices, income from the distribution of the 1983 PIK commodities and the 1984 wheat PIK this fall, moderate price increases for inputs originating off farms, and more normal crop production. However, key factors—weather, the strength of the world economy, and U.S. inflation and interest rates—remain largely uncertain. Mostly because of a lowering of the crop price forecast, net cash income is expected to range from \$34 to \$38 billion, down from the \$37 to \$41 billion previously expected and also down from the likely 1983 total. Net farm income is forecast at \$30 to \$34 billion, up significantly from the drought-reduced 1983 level.

Net farm income measures the income generated from a given year's output. It represents the net value of production, regardless of whether the commodities are sold, fed, or placed in inventory during the year. Net cash income, on the other hand, measures the income farmers choose to receive in a given year, regardless of the level of production or the year the marketed output was produced. The difference between these two series is similar to

the difference between accrual (net farm income) and cash (net cash income) accounting.

Off-farm income can contribute significantly to farm family welfare. This year it is expected to range from \$41 to \$45 billion, compared with about \$40 billion in 1983. It may comprise less than 60 percent of total farm family income, contrasted with an estimated 65 percent in 1983 and 64 in 1982. Wages and salaries constitute about 63 percent of total off-farm income. Other components include nonfarm business and professional income, veterans' benefits, interest, dividends, and other transfer and wage income. Improved employment opportunities and higher wage rates will be critical in raising total off-farm income. Off-farm income is most important to those farms with sales of less than \$40,000.

Gross Cash Income To Rise

Gross cash income is expected to rise 3 to 5 percent in 1984, the largest gain since 1980's 6 percent. Much of the increase will be due to a 4- to 6-percent rise in cash receipts from marketing. Crop cash receipts are expected to move up 2 to 4 percent, led by increases for oil crops, fruits and nuts, and vegetables. Receipts for food grains may fall somewhat as continued low wheat prices and receipts offset higher rice receipts. Feed grain receipts may also decline slightly from year-earlier levels, as low marketing volumes outweigh higher prices.

Livestock cash receipts are forecast to increase 6 to 8 percent, the largest rise since 1979's 16-percent jump. Because of strong prices, poultry and egg receipts will probably go up the most, rising about a fifth—the greatest gain since 1973's 69 percent. Demand for poultry products remains strong, and supplies of competing meats are declining. Meat animal receipts could rise as much as a tenth, as stronger prices for cattle and hogs outweigh reduced marketing. Dairy cash receipts could fall 4 to 6 percent, the first decline since 1962, as both marketing and prices drop.

Government Payments To Remain Substantial

Direct Government payments (cash payments plus PIK disbursements) are expected to add \$6 to \$10 billion to 1984 gross cash income. Distribution of the remaining 1983 PIK commodities earlier this year and distribution of some 1984 PIK wheat this fall should account for \$4 to \$6 billion, or 2 to 4 percent of 1984 gross cash income. When PIK payments are combined with the expected \$2 to \$5 billion in cash payments, direct payments could comprise 4 to 6 percent of gross cash income this year. Paid diversion for 1984 wheat added about \$0.5 billion to the forecast of 1984 cash payments.

Of total Government payments for this year, about 60 percent were technically earned during 1983 (including all the 1983 PIK). However, the farm income accounts record Government payments in the year they are actually disbursed, rather than in the year they are earned. While this accounting hasn't noticeably skewed totals in previous years, the magnitude of Government payments in 1983 and 1984 may have caused a significant shift in income to 1984.

Production Expenses Also Growing

Total farm production expenses are forecast to rise 6 to 8 percent from the \$136 billion estimated for 1983. Cash expenses will likely rise somewhat more—8 to 10 percent. Depreciation, the largest component of total expenses, may remain near the 1983 level and mute the increase in total production expenses. Depreciation is not included in cash expenses. The rise in expenses may be evenly divided between increased input use and rising input prices. Input use will likely recover most of last year's 4- to 6-percent decline, mainly because of increased planted acreage. Use of manufactured inputs (fertilizer, pesticides, fuels, and electricity), machine hire and custom services, and seed will likely see the largest gains.

The category "other operating expenses" is expected to rise about a tenth.¹ Expenses for machine hire and custom services fell sharply in 1983, but with a return to more normal acreage and yields, demand for services such as custom harvesting should rise.

¹Includes capital repairs, hired labor, machine hire and custom services, dairy deductions, cotton ginning, insurance, and many other minor items.

Cotton ginning expenses also fell last year, because of the 35-percent decline in cotton output. Ginning expenses will likely rise this year in response to stronger cotton production and higher ginning costs. Milk price deductions are expected to be about equal to last year's \$0.6 billion, but hired labor expenses could increase 7 to 9 percent because of more hours worked and higher wage rates.

Net rent to landlords is expected to increase a tenth or more in 1984 following last year's decline of over a tenth. Share rent will likely rise the most because of the expected rise in 1984 cash receipts. Cash rent may increase more slowly as real estate values continue sluggish.

Output and Productivity Gaining

The U.S. index of total farm output is forecast to increase about a sixth this year, following the 15-percent decline induced by the drought during 1983. Crop production, which fell 26 percent last year, may rise a third, as acreage harvested and yields rebound.

Feed grain output is likely to show the greatest percentage increase, after falling 46 percent in 1983—the sharpest decline of all crop categories. The corn crop is expected to rise markedly after being halved last year to 4.2 billion bushels. Cotton production also should rise substantially, following the 35-percent drop in 1983. Output of oil crops fell 28 percent last year, but stronger yields will probably help raise production this year. Food grain output, which only fell 16 percent last year because most winter wheat was harvested prior to the drought, is expected to increase despite the 1984 wheat PIK program.

Livestock output, which was record high in 1983, could fall somewhat this year. Milk production will likely drop from the 1983 total, which was also a record. Poultry and egg production will be about even with last year's record. Production totals for pork and

beef are both expected to decline in 1984, as producers respond to low returns of the past year.

Farm input use is expected to increase 3 to 5 percent in 1984. Preliminary data indicate that 1983 farm input use registered the largest decline since 1934. However, use of all major production inputs for crops should recover this year. Along with feed, breeder and feeder livestock may be the only major input category to slip. Total farm input use was record-high in 1979, when purchased inputs such as

pesticides, fertilizer, and feed rose substantially.

These movements in farm output and input use are forecast to leave productivity up more than a tenth in 1984. It declined about a tenth in 1983. Given ideal growing conditions, productivity could even reach a record this year, slightly surpassing 1982. U.S. agriculture has been able to increase production mostly by changing the mixture of inputs used, rather than by changing the total amount of inputs. [Gary Lucier (202) 447-2317]

1983 Income Estimates Due in August

The first estimates of 1983 farm income, based on survey data, will be released in the August issue of *Agricultural Outlook*. Until then, the 1983 statistics will remain forecasts.

Although data for 1983 PIK disbursements are still incomplete, 1983 cash Government payments have been finalized at \$4.1 billion. Following the release of USDA's annual livestock disposition reports, the forecast for 1983 livestock receipts will be revised downward. The final livestock receipts estimate will likely still fall within 2 percent of the original forecast.

The final crop receipts estimate may also be lower than the last forecast. Initial State totals of 1983 crop receipts also indicate that the crop receipts estimate will fall within 2 percent of the forecast level. Based on more complete stocks and marketing information, the estimate for the value of inventory change is now likely to range from \$10 to \$12 billion. Production expenditures are being finalized.

Based on data available thus far, the 1983 net cash income estimate is still expected to be above the 1980 record nominal level. However, it seems likely that the 1983 net farm income estimate will be below the 1982 level of \$22.1 billion and could fall below last quarter's forecast.

In a year such as 1983, when production was substantially curtailed, but large quantities of stored commodities existed, cash and net farm incomes can diverge, with cash income rising and net farm income falling. The major reason, of course, is that farmers are selling previous years' production from stocks at higher prices. Cash income records those "inventory profits" as current year income. Net farm income offsets them with an assigned value to the drop in stocks. Thus a paradox can exist in discussing the sector's financial well-being: in a year in which net farm income may fall, net cash income may reach a record nominal level. [Gary Lucier (202) 447-2317]



World Agriculture and Trade

EXPORT UPDATE

Growth in the world economy is contributing to improved agricultural trade this year. U.S. agricultural exports in fiscal 1984 are forecast at \$38 billion, up 9 percent from last year, because of tight global supplies and higher prices for feed grains, oilseeds, and cotton. However, at 142 million metric tons, the volume of U.S. farm exports is likely to decline slightly from 1982/83. Decreased oilseeds and products shipments account for most of the decline.

The value of imports for the first half of fiscal 1984 (October-March) rose 15 percent from a year earlier. Increased demand for sugar, rubber, vegetables, fruit, wine, malt beverages, and oilseed products more than offset declines in coffee, cocoa, and meat. Total agricultural imports are expected to reach \$17.5 billion by the end of the year. As a result, the agricultural trade surplus is estimated at \$20.5 billion, an 11-percent increase from fiscal 1983.

Feed Grain Exports Higher

U.S. feed grain exports, forecast at 56.1 million tons, could be 4 percent

higher than in fiscal 1983. The U.S. share of the world market should be about 2 percentage points above last year's 59 percent. Low U.S. corn stocks, increased Soviet imports, and a drought-damaged South African outturn will likely keep feed grain prices strong. Thus, the value of U.S. feed grain exports is expected to be up 30 percent from last year. The volume of U.S. feed grain exports for the first 6 months of fiscal 1984 ran 5 percent ahead of a year earlier.

Soviets Buy 23 Percent More U.S. Corn

The Soviets' continued demand for U.S. feed grains has been caused by increased feeding needs and poor domestic harvests. For the first half of this year, U.S. corn exports to the Soviet Union were 23 percent ahead of last year.

U.S. feed grain exports to the European Community (EC) will probably increase only slightly this year because of only small gains in meat production and the increased use of domestic feed wheat. U.S. corn prices are expected to decline in 1984/85 as world supplies rebound from depressed 1983 levels. This could mean increased foreign demand for U.S. feed grains again next year.

Recently, wheat prices have been more attractive than those for corn, resulting in increased feed use of wheat at the expense of other ingredients, especially corn, in some countries. Australia is aggressively marketing feed wheat to South Korea, traditionally a U.S. corn customer. The EC will also market wheat for domestic feed use and exports.

Wheat Remains

A Buyer's Market

U.S. wheat exports during October-March were about the same as a year earlier, reflecting increased shipments to the Soviet Union, Brazil, and China and decreased exports to India and Egypt. Total U.S. wheat exports are forecast at 37.7 million tons for fiscal 1984, compared with 36.7 million last year. The world wheat situation will remain a buyer's market, with the U.S. share around 38 percent—compared to last year's 41 and the 1980-82 average of 45. Increased Government-financed sales, about 8 percent of total U.S. wheat sales since 1977, could boost demand.

U.S. wheat exports will likely fall slightly in fiscal 1985. Global wheat production may hit a record, with good crops expected in many major wheat-importing countries and continued large foreign exports.

U.S. exports of soybeans in 1983/84 are forecast to increase to 20.7 million tons, but they could still be 16 percent below 1982/83. U.S. soybean stocks on April 1 were down 36 percent, indicating supplies will be tight until the new crop is harvested this fall. Nevertheless, the export forecast for 1983/84 is stronger than earlier expected—by about 5 percent—because of higher-than-anticipated purchases by Mexico and the EC. In contrast, prospects have weakened for soybean meal exports because of the reduced U.S. crush and weaker demand in the EC. The volume of soybean meal exports is forecast 23 percent below last year. The United States will account for about half of world soybean and meal exports this year (meal-equivalent basis), compared with 57 percent last year.

Soybean Sales to EC May Pick Up

U.S. soybean exports to the EC, currently estimated at 8.5 million metric tons, could pick up later this year and into 1985. The soybean meal/corn price ratio now favors increased soybean meal use in animal rations, which could mean higher demand for U.S. soybeans to crush in fiscal 1985.

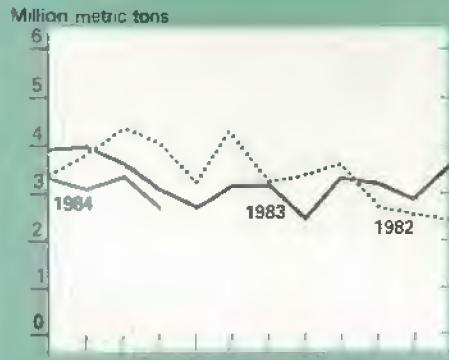
U.S. exports of soybean oil for 1983/84 are forecast at 750,000 tons, 18 percent below 1982/83. Tight U.S. oil supplies and increased domestic demand are limiting export sales and will likely boost the price of soybean oil in the near term. Brazil's soybean oil exports are expected to decline from 1 million tons in fiscal 1983 to 875,000 this year because of reduced supplies and domestic use of a larger share of total supplies. This will also contribute to higher U.S. prices. On the other hand, Malaysia's palm oil crop is expected to

U.S. Agricultural Trade Indicators

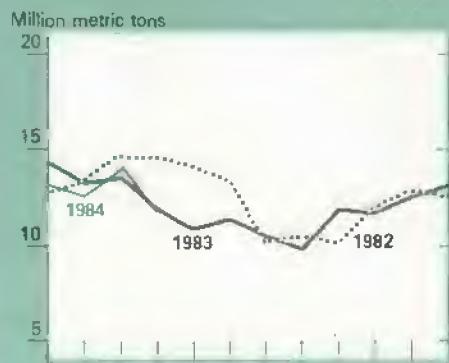
U.S. agricultural trade balance



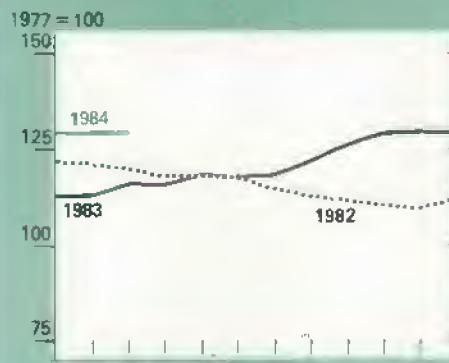
U.S. wheat exports



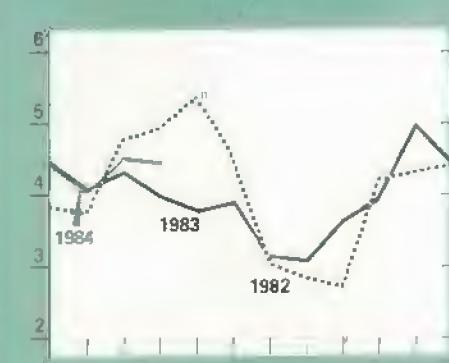
Export volume



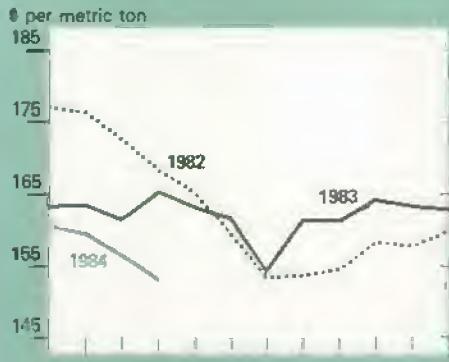
Export prices



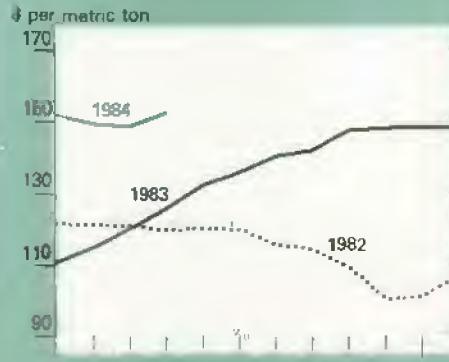
U.S. corn exports



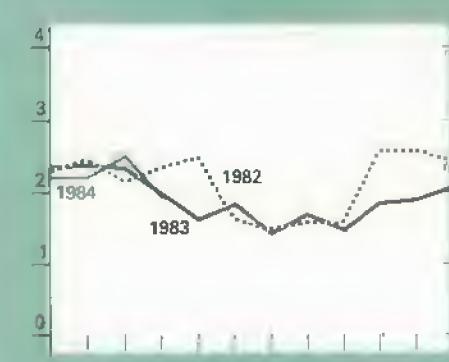
Wheat export unit value*



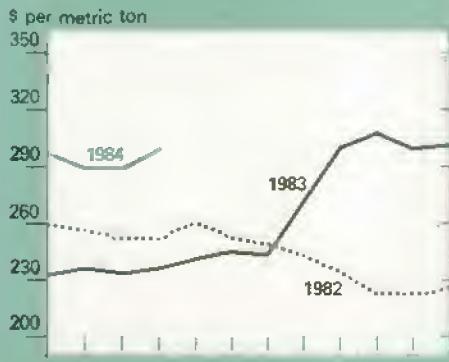
Corn export unit value*



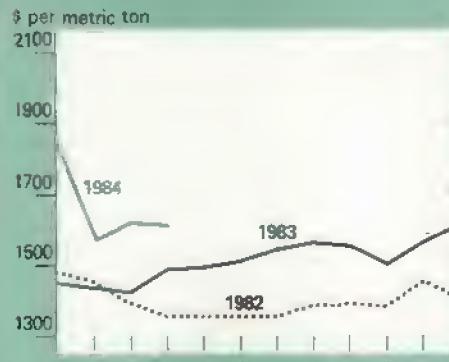
U.S. soybean exports



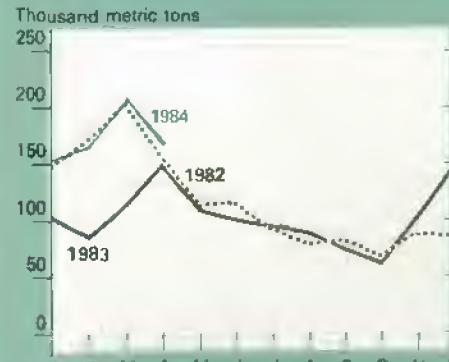
Soybeans export unit value*



Cotton export unit value*



U.S. cotton exports



*Value of U.S. exports divided by volume exported. Data on the wheat, corn, soybean, and cotton exchange rates are now included in the U.S. Agricultural Trade tables at the back of this issue.

U.S. Agricultural Exports: Value and Volume by Commodity

Commodity	Fiscal 1981	Fiscal 1982	Fiscal 1983	Fiscal 1984 F
Billion dollars				
Grains and feed	21.900	17.615	15.194	17.2
Wheat & products	7.965	7.615	6.226	6.3
Rice	1.537	1.149	.874	.9
Coarse grains ¹	10.512	7.051	6.582	6.6
Corn ²	8.966	5.962	5.717	7.2
Oilseeds and products	9.400	9.731	8.873	9.4
Soybeans	5.986	6.479	5.866	6.4
Soybean cake & meal	1.599	1.453	1.449	1.2
Soybean oil . . . . .	.457	.498	.462	.6
Livestock Products	3.148	3.164	2.995	3.1
Poultry & products . . . . .	.765	.579	.451	.4
Dairy products . . . . .	.243	.372	.354	.4
Horticultural products	3.084	2.851	2.689	2.6
Tobacco	1.339	1.486	1.487	1.4
Cotton & linters	2.248	2.163	1.703	2.4
Seeds . . . . .	.283	.296	.325	.3
Sugar and tropical products	1.372	.838	.705	.8
Total	43.780	39.095	34.776	38.0
Million metric tons				
Wheat	42.247	44.609	36.699	37.7
Wheat flour . . . . .	.940	.721	1.482	1.2
Coarse grains ¹	69.383	58.179	53.769	56.1
Corn ²	59.367	49.808	47.106	47.8
Feeds, ingredients & fodders	5.820	6.007	6.991	7.2
Rice	3.172	2.911	2.276	2.0
Soybeans	19.972	25.477	24.522	20.7
Soybean cake & meal	6.149	6.266	6.449	4.9
Soybean oil . . . . .	.739	.941	.919	.7
Sunflowerseed	1.426	1.542	1.363	.8
Sunflowerseed oil . . . . .	.301	.103	.229	.3
Other oilseeds & meals . . . . .	.441	.289	.239	.3
Beef, pork & variety meats . . . . .	.386	.398	.384	.4
Poultry meat . . . . .	.395	.314	.251	.2
Animal fats	1.536	1.497	1.431	1.4
Tobacco . . . . .	.252	.254	.245	.2
Cotton & linters	1.264	1.556	1.209	1.6
Horticultural products	3.406	3.139	3.041	2.9
Other	4.508	3.666	3.270	3.4
Total	162.337	157.868	144.769	142.0

¹ Includes corn, oats, barley, sorghum, and rye and products. ² Excludes products.

F = Forecast.

recover later this year, and if that nation chooses to sell the oil rather than rebuild stocks, prices for vegetable oils could come down in fiscal 1985.

Cotton Sales May Slow

In 1985

U.S. cotton exports remain brisk and are expected to reach 7 million bales in fiscal 1984, a third larger than last year's sales, because of improved world

demand and reduced supplies from other nations, especially the Soviet Union and Pakistan. By the end of March, the volume of U.S. cotton exports was 46 percent ahead of a year earlier. Sales to the Far East and Western Europe remain strong. The United States is expected to account for 37 percent of world cotton trade, compared with 28 percent in 1983.

U.S. cotton exports are expected to decline to around 5.5 million bales in 1985. However, much will depend on the size of the 1984 crops, both here and abroad. Cotton production is ex-

pected to rebound in the other major exporting countries—the Soviet Union, Pakistan, and Mexico.

China, the most recent entrant in the export market, had a record crop this year and may export over a half-million bales in 1984 and possibly a million or more in 1985. In the long term, if China can meet quality standards and solve transportation constraints, it could emerge as the third largest cotton exporter, after the United States and the Soviet Union. (Patricia M. Haslach (202) 447-8841)

IMPROVED TRADE PROSPECTS WITH JAPAN

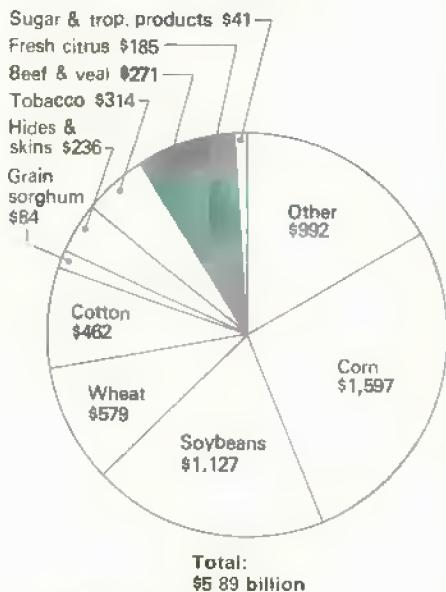
U.S. beef and citrus exports to Japan will increase over the next 4 years under terms of a new trade agreement reached in April. The previous trade pact for beef and citrus, signed during the Tokyo Round of the Multilateral Trade Negotiations (MTN) in 1979, expired at the end of March. The new accord, in effect through March 1988, temporarily settles the long-standing dispute over beef and citrus, which had become a trouble spot in U.S.-Japanese agricultural trade relations.

Beef Imports To Nearly Double By 1987/88

Under the new beef and citrus agreement, Japan will increase import quotas of high-quality beef (grain-fed) by 6,900 tons annually over the next 4 years, twice the rate of increase provided for under the MTN. Import quotas of high-quality beef, 30,800 tons last year, will reach 58,400 by 1987/88. Orange imports will expand by 11,000 tons per year to 126,000 tons by the fourth year of the agreement. This is somewhat more than the average yearly increase under the previous agreement. Imports of grapefruit juice, now set at 6,000 tons annually, will not face any quota restrictions after April 1986. However, import levels for orange juice will continue to increase 500 tons annually—the same as before.

Because of the expanded quotas, U.S. beef sales to Japan will increase by about \$30 million during 1984/85, and could reach \$120 million above current levels by 1987/88. U.S. orange sales will grow an estimated \$7 million during 1984/85, or \$26 million by 1987/88. For citrus juice, the United States will benefit more from the liberalized grapefruit juice market, where it faces less competition. In recent years, the U.S. market share of Japan's orange juice imports has been eroding because of intense competition from Brazil.

Beef and Citrus Are Small Part of U.S. Farm Exports to Japan*



*In \$ millions, for fiscal 1983.

The export value of U.S. beef, fresh oranges, and citrus juice to Japan is small (3 to 4 percent of the total value of U.S. agricultural exports to Japan). But, it has been growing and will grow further because of the recent accord. Quotas on these products became symbols of the closed nature of the Japanese market for agricultural products. Tensions in other areas of U.S.-Japan trade relations, along with a chronic and growing U.S. trade deficit with Japan, focused attention on Japan's restrictive import policies for beef and citrus.

Japanese Move To Liberalize Trade Relations

Japan protects its agriculture in a variety of ways. Import quotas are currently imposed on 19 agricultural products. Imports of food grains are strictly controlled by Japan's Food Agency. Ad valorem tariffs, relatively low or zero on bulk commodities, range up to 40 percent on higher value items such as fresh and processed fruit and vegetables. Strict plant and quarantine regulations also tend to inhibit trade and keep retail prices high.

Faced with growing criticism about its trade surplus and the threat of protectionist moves by its principal trading partners, Japan is beginning to encourage imports. Japan has reduced or eliminated tariffs on certain items, eased some quality standards, and sim-

U.S. Trade with Japan: Our Deficit Keeps Growing!

Calendar year	All goods		Farm goods			Trade balance
	Imports	Exports	Adjusted exports ²	Exports	Imports	
Million dollars						
1978	24,814	12,689	4,484	4,435	92	-12,125
1979	26,334	17,368	5,287	5,255	89	-8,966
1980	30,698	20,574	6,331	6,111	99	-10,124
1981	37,471	21,515	6,606	6,562	120	-15,956
1982	39,422	20,665	5,555	5,547	129	-18,757
1983	40,887	21,520	6,251	6,241	168	-19,367

¹ Export values are f.o.b., imports are c.i.f. ² Including transshipments.

Source: U.S. Foreign Agricultural Statistical Report, Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA.

plified certification procedures. An Office of Trade Ombudsman was created in January 1982 to handle trade access complaints.

In April 1984, Japan announced its fifth and latest market-opening package, which in addition to expanding quotas in beef, fresh oranges, and citrus juices lowers import duties on 71 commodities (31 agricultural) starting in fiscal 1985. The action liberalizes manufactured tobacco imports and facilitates the retail distribution of foreign tobacco products, deregulates to some extent capital and financial markets, and provides for greater international use of the yen.

Japan is the largest single country market for U.S. agricultural products, with sales expected to approach \$7 billion this year. U.S. farm exports to Japan grew rapidly in the 1960's and 1970's in response to the expanding livestock industry's need for more feed grains and oilseeds. Growth in exports has slowed recently, though, because of a less vigorous Japanese economy. About 15 percent of the value of total annual U.S. agricultural exports are shipped to Japan, and about 40 percent of Japan's agricultural imports originate in the United States.

Most of the trade consists of bulk commodities such as feed grains, soybeans, cotton, tobacco, and cattle hides. It is products such as beef, citrus, and other fresh and processed fruits and vegetables whose share the United States seeks to increase. Growth in Japan's economy this year (forecast at 4.1 percent, compared with 3.4 last year) will stimulate recovery in its livestock sector, which should expand imports of U.S. feed grains and soybeans. Together, these commodities comprised 48 percent of the total value of U.S. exports to Japan in fiscal 1983.

Bulk Commodities To Remain Our Biggest Export Items

U.S. exports to Japan will continue to be predominantly bulk commodities and raw materials used in various agricultural industries. These made up about 80 percent of total U.S. agricultural exports to Japan last year. In 1983, exports of commodities such as meat, dairy products, fruits, vegetables, and nuts totaled nearly \$1 billion. Trade in these products is more restricted because Japan, like other countries, is concerned with the employment and income benefits generated by processing agricultural products domestically.

In the short term, Japan's demand for imported feedstuffs will grow, although not as rapidly as during the 1960's and 1970's. Japan's livestock industry is expected to continue expanding, requiring large quantities of imported grain and oilseeds. Wheat demand will continue to be relatively stable, although decreased incentives for domestic production will likely cause wheat imports to rise slightly. Government policies ensuring the purchase of all domestically produced tobacco, coupled with declining tobacco consumption, will cause tobacco im-

ports to decrease. Cotton imports are likely to decline as well, as competition from other Asian textile production weakens Japan's industry.

In the longer term, a large (119 million) and affluent population will continue to ensure a sizable market for U.S. agricultural products, although the population growth rate has slowed and income growth is lower than in the 1970's. Increased consumption of meat in the Japanese diet, accelerated by a more limited fish supply since the imposition of 200-mile fishing limits by many coastal nations, will also expand the Japanese market. A small land base and an inefficient agricultural sector will continue to constrain Japan's ability to produce its own food. Japan must import over 50 percent of its total calorie needs, and agricultural self-sufficiency is likely to continue to decline, leading to greater dependence on imports. [Lois Caplan (202) 447-8860]

Upcoming Economic Reports

Title	Summary Released
Foreign Ag Trade of U.S.	June 14
Dairy	June 20
World Ag Supply & Demand	June 22
Latin America	June 26
Livestock & Poultry	July 5
Sub-Saharan Africa	July 6
World Ag Supply & Demand	July 11
Fruit	July 13
Economic Indicators of the Farm Sector	July 16

Summaries are available on some computer networks on the dates indicated; the full reports are also released electronically 2 to 3 days later. For details on the summaries, call (402) 472-1892, (301) 588-1572, or (301) 982-6500. Full reports—text and tables—are provided by the system on (402) 472-1892.



Inputs

FARM FINANCE UPDATE

The PIK program gave the farm economy a boost in 1983, but farm income has been dampened by high interest rates, declining export markets, and the 1981-83 recession. Furthermore, 4 consecutive years of declining real farmland values have eroded farmers' equity. Many farmers who made large capital purchases in the late 1970's have seen their financial positions deteriorate considerably.

Many Farmers Still Face Losses

Farmers earning a 3-percent return on assets (the sector's average for 1982), paying approximately 11 percent average interest on outstanding farm debt, and carrying a debt-asset ratio of 20 percent are earning only a 1-percent return on equity. While many farmers are likely earning more than the sector's average return, a significant number are carrying much higher debt-asset ratios. Therefore, a sizable number of farmers have been accumulating losses for the last few years. Obviously, a reduction in interest rates or an improvement in returns would help these operators. However, most need to substantially restructure their balance sheets to return to long-term profitability.

As farm size increases, the percentage of farmers who are highly debt-leveraged (having debt-asset ratios over 40 percent) also rises, ranging from 11 percent for very small farms to about 44 percent for large farms.

Farms having the most problems with debt and cash flow are primarily the highly leveraged commercial farms. There are about 230,000 of these, representing 9 percent of all operations and 33 percent of the commercial farms (defined as having annual sales over \$40,000). Owners of smaller farms, who appear to be in much better financial shape, frequently have significant off-farm incomes to assist with debt repayment.

The Farm Finance Survey of the Census of Agriculture showed that the Western Corn Belt had the largest concentration of highly leveraged farms in 1980. Eighteen percent of the farms in this region had a debt-asset ratio of 40 percent or greater. The smallest concentrations were in New England and the Middle Atlantic States. Recent information indicates that these rankings have not changed.

Interest Rates Remain High; Real Farmland Values Down

In 1983, farm programs helped many farmers to stay in business another year. Higher Government payments and lower production expenses (both the result of PIK) helped many farmers survive. However, financial conditions remain stressful for many operators.

Agricultural interest rates declined in 1983 and have remained stable thus far this year. Even after adjustment for inflation, they remain high by historical standards.

Nominal U.S. farmland values dropped by 1 percent last year (April 1, 1983—April 1, 1984), compared with a 6-percent drop a year earlier. Several States recorded significant declines in the average value per acre. For example, Iowa and Nebraska registered drops of 11 and 12 percent, respectively. On the other hand, Pennsylvania and Texas experienced increases of 8 and 9 percent. In real terms, average U.S. farmland values dropped for the fourth consecutive year.

Farmers, Lenders Changing in Response to the Times

Many farmers are restructuring their balance sheets, and many have partial-

**Rate of Income Return to Equity,
by Debt/Asset Ratio and
Interest Rate¹**

Debt/asset ratio (percent)	Interest rate on outstanding debt (percent)		
	7	11	15
Return to equity (percent)			
0	3.0	3.0	3.0
10	2.6	2.1	1.7
20	2.0	1.0	0.0
30	1.3	-0.4	-2.1
40	0.3	-2.3	-6.0
50	-1.0	-5.0	-9.0
60	-3.0	-9.0	-15.0

¹ This table assumes a farm on which the rate of income return to assets is 3 percent, approximately the average for the farm sector in 1982. To illustrate: If the farm also had the average debt/asset ratio for the farm sector, 20 percent, and the average interest rate, 11 percent, its rate of income return to equity would be 1.0 percent.

Source: Modified from Emanuel Melichar, "A Financial Perspective on Agriculture," *Federal Reserve Bulletin*, January 1984.

ly liquidated farm capital assets. Most farmers have been reluctant to incur large amounts of additional long-term debt, as evidenced by the 2.2-percent increase in farm real estate debt in 1983. This rise was the smallest in over 35 years.

Farm lenders have also adjusted to the changing farm economy. They have adopted more conservative lending practices because of continued high interest rates and potential loan losses. They have increased collateral requirements, and they are more carefully scrutinizing cash flow projections in credit applications. Although most lenders have been helpful to highly indebted farm borrowers, it appears that many must now take more drastic action on overdue loans.

Federal Reserve Bank (FRB) surveys suggest that creditor foreclosures rose considerably during October 1983-March 1984, although absolute numbers remain small. The American Council of Life Insurance recently reported that 2.6 percent of the farm debt held by life insurance companies in December 1983 was in the process of foreclosure, compared with 2.4 and 1.2 percent in 1982 and 1981, respectively.

Debt Distribution by Farm Size¹

Size of farm ²	Ratio of debt to assets				Total
	0-10	11-40	41-70	71 and over	
Percent of operators					
All farms	58	24	11	8	100
Large	21	36	25	19	100
Medium	34	35	18	13	100
Small	55	26	11	8	100
Very small	73	16	7	4	100
Percent of debt owed by operators					
All farms	5	32	32	31	100
Large	3	27	33	38	100
Medium	5	34	32	29	100
Small	8	37	29	26	100
Very small	8	38	31	23	100

¹ As of January 1, 1984. Estimates based on data from Bureau of the Census, 1979 Farm Finance Survey. ² According to annual sales of farm products sold, as follows: large, \$200,000 and over; medium, \$40,000 to \$199,999; small, \$10,000 to \$39,999; and very small, under \$10,000.

Source: Emanuel Melichar, "A Financial Perspective on Agriculture," *Federal Reserve Bulletin*, January 1984.

The FRB surveys also indicate that the number of farmers leaving the sector because of financial stress is rising. For example, the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis estimated that between October 1983 and March 1984, 3.4 percent of farmers and ranchers in its area discontinued farming because of financial difficulties. This compares with 2 percent during the same period the previous year.

In January 1984, the American Bankers Association surveyed 1,000 agricultural banks. Findings indicated that of the loans held by 522 banks responding to the survey, 22 percent were being given closer supervision, 8.7 percent were considered distressed, and 2.5 percent were under foreclosure. These banks also indicated that nearly 30 percent of their borrowers had lost money in 1983.

1984 Could Be a Critical Year

The number of farmers leaving the sector for financial reasons will likely increase during the remainder of 1984. Many analysts believe that lending institutions have postponed foreclosures and liquidations on their most distressed clients for as long as they can.

Although credit terms can be arranged, farm-sector interest rates are expected to rise, making it even more difficult to qualify for a loan. Demand for production credit will be higher than in 1983, because planted acreage will likely increase. Total farm debt is forecast to rise about 3 percent in 1984.

U.S. farmland values are not expected to change significantly over the next few years. Regional values will vary because of differences in commodity returns and local markets for farmland. Land values in the Corn Belt and parts of the Southeast may weaken further. Farm-sector equity is forecast to grow 2.7 percent in current dollars; however, in real terms, it will drop for the fifth year in a row.

Financially, this year could be critical for the farm sector. If larger production and sluggish exports force commodity prices down, and if interest rates continue to rise, more farmers could be in financial difficulty. One bright spot is the expected increase in farm product demand generated by an improving economy. However, with about 63 percent of all farm debt owed by highly leveraged operators, lenders know that even if net farm income improves, a large portion of their customers will continue to have serious cash flow problems. (George Amols and Stephen Gabriel (202) 447-7340)



Transportation

FRUIT & VEGETABLE TRANSPORTATION OUTLOOK

Transportation services will be adequate to meet the needs of this year's projected large vegetable crop. Most produce items are shipped by truck, but the share moved by trailer-on-flat-car (TOFC) service continues to grow. In 1981, TOFC service accounted for less than 3 percent of all produce shipments; it doubled to 6 percent in 1983.

TOFC traffic in all commodities has been growing steadily. In 1981, 2.1 million cars (each car usually carrying two semi-trailers) were shipped. By 1983, nearly 2.8 million TOFC cars were loaded, and more than 3 million are expected for this year.

Railroad utilization of TOFC cars has also increased significantly. During 1981, each car was loaded, on average, 40 times. For 1983, each car averaged 51 trips, a 28-percent increase. A significant portion of rail service costs is in the initial purchase of the cars. Increased use lowers average cost, but since TOFC traffic is no longer regulated by the Interstate Commerce Commission and rates for TOFC ship-

Truck Rates & Costs for Produce Shipments from California to New York City

	Rates		Costs	
	Lettuce	Chtri	Owner-operator	Fleet
Dollars per mile				
1983				
Jan.	0.917	0.959	1.146	1.102
Feb.	0.934	0.866	1.138	1.093
Mar.	0.934	0.866	1.126	1.080
Apr.	0.917	0.849	1.142	1.095
May	0.934	0.882	1.145	1.110
June	1.078	0.999	1.140	1.145
July	1.420	1.365	1.141	1.145
Aug.	1.416	1.332	1.142	1.147
Sept.	1.095	0.999	1.142	1.146
Oct.	1.078	0.982	1.140	1.142
Nov.	0.989	0.899	1.150	1.159
Dec.	0.917	0.832	1.151	1.160
1984				
Jan.	1.115	1.049	1.157	1.161
Feb.	1.006	1.049	1.164	1.170
Mar.	0.989	0.932	1.149	1.142
Apr.	1.023	0.982	1.149	1.142

TOFC Shipments of Fresh Produce To Continue Up

Year	Rail	TOFC	Truck
		Percent	
1981	10.0	2.9	87.1
1982	7.8	4.3	87.9
1983	8.4	6.0	85.6
1984F	7.0	7.0	86.0

F = Forecast.

ments are not public information, it isn't known if these savings have lowered rates.

Trucks To Remain Dominant
Despite the gains made by TOFC service, trucks still form the backbone of fresh fruit and vegetable transportation. According to USDA's Office of Transportation, regulated motor carriers (common and contract carriers¹) haul nearly 70 percent of all fresh produce shipped by truck. The market share of the carriers exempt from regulation declined from 35 percent in 1978 to 23 percent in 1982. However,

some of these exempt owner-operators now transport produce under leasing arrangements with regulated carriers.

Truck equipment should remain ample in 1984. Manufacturers delivered about 16,700 new refrigerated trailers in 1983, 16 percent more than in 1982. If current levels of production continue, more than 22,000 refrigerated vans will be manufactured this year.

Although some of these new trailers are replacing old ones, the total supply of refrigerated equipment appears to have increased. Also, new legislation permits larger equipment on interstate highways and much of the Federal aid highway system. Many of the new trailers have 17- to 27-percent larger capacities, and this will significantly increase the total capacity of the refrigerated trailer fleet.

Truck Rates To Rise Slightly
Truck rates for produce during the first 4 months of 1984 averaged 12-13

¹Common carriers serve the general public while contract carriers serve a limited clientele. However, recent decisions by the ICC have blurred the distinction.

percent above the same period last year. They are expected to rise seasonally during peak vegetable harvest months. Total truck costs during the first 4 months averaged 2 to 6 percent above 1983. Costs may increase slightly over the rest of the year with the entrance of large numbers of new, more expensive trailers. The new refrigerated trucks average \$20,600 at the manufacturers' gates, about 5 percent above 1983.

Trucking costs are also slated to increase on July 1 when user fees for heavy vehicles are raised, as mandated by the Surface Transportation Assistance Act of 1982. These fees are still being debated by Congress, and the existing law may be substantially changed with a decrease in these fixed vehicle taxes and an increase in the fuel tax. Advocates of these changes say it would be fairer to tax trucks according to miles driven.

Under existing legislation, beginning July 1, trucks weighing 33,000 to 54,999 pounds (empty) will be taxed \$50 per year plus \$25 per 1,000 pounds over 33,000. Trucks weighing 55,000 to 79,999 pounds will be charged \$600 annually, plus \$40 per 1,000 pounds above 55,000, to a maximum of \$1,600 per vehicle. Although these fees promise to add nearly \$1,500 per year to an average truck's operating costs, they would add only about a penny a mile to the cost of a truck driven 130,000 miles annually.

It is difficult to assess how these charges will be allocated among marketing components and farmers. Vehicles operated less than 5,000 miles per year over public highways, a group that includes most farmer-owned trucks are exempt altogether. In addition, owners of five or fewer trucks weighing 33,000 pounds or more will not be taxed until July 1, 1985. About 40 percent of produce shipped by truck is carried by owner-operators who own fewer than five vehicles. Thus, fruit and vegetable producers, along with processors and consumers, should not feel the full impact of the user fees until after mid-1985.

Hikes in State fuel taxes and truck permit fees may again push transportation costs up. Twenty-three States have increased truck taxes or are considering doing so. State tax on diesel fuel averages 12.1 cents per gallon and often represents a larger share of total taxes than Federal fuel and vehicle taxes. Both Federal and State taxes are mainly intended to provide funds for highway repair and maintenance.

Rail Rates To Be Flat Through Third Quarter

The ICC has announced that the Rail Cost Adjustment Factor (RCAF) for the second quarter is unchanged from the first quarter. The RCAF is based on a forecast of costs for the following quarter; thus, the ICC does not foresee upward cost pressures on rail rates through the third quarter. In January, rail rates for farm products, food products, and grain rose 3.6 percent, 4.1 percent, and 4.2 percent, respectively, from December. Since then, rates for these commodities have not changed, and they are expected to remain about the same through the third quarter.

Railroad transportation of frozen foods was exempted from regulation by the ICC in December 1983. Such a move would normally result in rate reductions because of competitive pressures, but most frozen food shipments already fall under existing boxcar and TOFC exemptions, so the impact is expected to be minimal. [T.Q. Hutchinson (202) 447-8707]



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EC Grains, Oilseeds, and Livestock: Selected Statistics, 1960-80. SB-703. 88 pp. Price: PC \$11.50, MF \$4.50. PB84-135847.

Statistical Indicators

Summary Data

Key statistical indicators of the food and fiber sector

	1983				1984				
	II	III	IV	Annual	I	II F	III F	IV F	Annual F
Prices received by farmers (1977=100)	136	136	136	135	144	146	146	139	144
Livestock and products	143	138	138	141	151	150	154	151	151
Crops	127	133	135	129	138	142	138	127	137
Prices paid by farmers, (1977=100)									
prod. items	154	153	154	153	156	163	162	161	161
Commodities and services, int., taxes, and wages	160	161	162	161	165	170	170	170	169
Cash receipts ¹ (\$ bil.)*	139	139	141	143	136	146-150	147-151	147-151	144-148
Livestock (\$ bil.)	69	67	71	71	74	71-75	72-76	73-77	72-76
Crops (\$ bil.)	70	72	70	72	62	73-77	73-77	73-77	70-74
Market basket (1967=100)									
Retail cost	270	269	269	269	288	290	295	297	290-295
Farm value	243	243	241	240	257	255	262	256	253-258
Spread	285	286	286	286	306	310	315	320	310-315
Farm value/retail cost (%)	33	31	33	33	33	33	33	32	33
Retail prices (1967=100)									
Food	292	292	293	292	301	304	309	312	304-312
At home	283	283	282	282	292	294	299	302	293-302
Away-from home	319	321	325	320	329	333	337	342	333-342
Agricultural exports (\$ bil.) ²	8.5	8.2	10.2	34.8	10.7	8.8	8.3	10.0	38.0
Agricultural imports (\$ bil.) ³	4.3	4.1	4.3	16.4	5.0	4.1	4.1	4.1	17.5
Livestock and products									
Total livestock and products (1974=100)	116.4	116.8	116.7	115.1	112.3	114.5	111.9	112.7	112.1
Beef (mil. lb.)	5,556	6,015	5,962	23,060	5,709	5,650	5,775	5,550	22,684
Pork (mil. lb.)	3,771	3,657	4,206	15,117	3,737	3,625	3,175	3,725	14,262
Veal (mil. lb.)	98	110	117	428	116	90	95	105	406
Lamb and mutton (mil. lb.)	89	94	91	367	98	93	80	82	353
Red meats (mil. lb.)	9,514	9,876	10,376	38,972	9,660	9,458	9,125	9,462	37,705
Broilers (mil. lb.)	3,277	3,135	2,917	12,389	3,075	3,300	3,275	3,080	12,730
Turkeys (mil. lb.)	581	760	759	2,563	431	590	750	790	2,561
Total meats and poultry (mil. lb.)	13,321	13,745	14,052	53,881	13,166	13,348	13,150	13,332	52,996
Eggs (mil. dz.)	1,405	1,399	1,418	5,655	1,401	1,420	1,430	1,460	5,711
Milk (bil. lb.)	36.9	35.0	33.8	140.0	34.1	35.0	33.0	32.4	134.5
Choice steers, Omaha (\$/cwt.)	67.04	60.89	60.61	62.52	67.58	66.68	65.71	63.69	66-69
Barrows and gilts, 7 markets (\$/cwt.)	46.74	46.90	42.18	47.71	47.68	49.51	57.63	53.59	52-56
Broilers-wholesale, 12-city weighted avg., dressed (cts./lb.) ⁴	46.5	53.9	55.2	—	61.8	56-58	56-62	52-58	57-61
Turkeys-wholesale, N.Y., 8-16 lb. hens, dressed (cts./lb.)	57.3	60.3	69.4	60.5	67.7	66-68	66-72	67-73	66-70
Eggs, N.Y. Gr. A large, (cts./dz.)	69.1	74.4	91.3	75.2	103.4	82-86	73-79	67-73	81-85
Milk, all at farm (\$/cwt.)	13.33	13.33	13.80	13.57	13.40	12.70-13.00	12.80-13.30	13.70-14.20	13.10-13.50
Crop prices at the farm ⁴									
Wheat (\$/bu.)	3.68	3.53	3.54	3.54	3.46	—	—	—	3.20-3.50
Corn (\$/bu.)	3.00	3.27	3.16	3.30	3.16	—	—	—	2.65-3.20
Soybeans (\$/bu.)	6.01	7.37	7.84	7.87	7.61	—	—	—	6.00-8.50
Upland cotton (cts./lb.)	60.8	65.7	66.1	66.4	66.3	—	—	—	—

¹ Quarterly cash receipts are seasonally adjusted at annual rates. ² Annual data are based on Oct.-Sept. fiscal years ending with the indicated year. ³ The 9-city price has been discontinued; starting with the second quarter 1983 the broiler price is the new 12-city average. ⁴ Quarterly prices are simple averages; annual prices are for marketing year beginning in year indicated. F = Forecast. Numbers may not add to totals due to rounding. *Seasonally adjusted at annual rates.

Farm Income

Farm income statistics

	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983 F	1984 F
\$ Bill.											
Receipts											
Cash receipts.											
Crops ¹	51.1	45.8	49.0	48.6	53.7	63.2	72.7	73.1	74.4	71 to 73	70 to 74
Livestock	41.3	43.1	46.3	47.6	59.2	68.6	67.8	69.2	70.2	70 to 72	72 to 76
Total	92.4	88.9	95.4	96.2	112.9	131.8	140.5	142.3	144.6	142 to 144	144 to 148
Other cash income ²	1.4	1.8	1.8	3.0	4.3	2.9	2.9	3.9	5.6	8 to 10	8 to 12
Gross cash income	93.8	90.7	97.1	99.2	117.2	134.7	143.4	146.2	150.1	151 to 153	154 to 158
Nonmoney income ³	6.1	6.5	7.3	8.4	9.2	10.7	12.1	13.3	13.9	13 to 15	12 to 14
Realized gross income	99.9	97.2	104.4	107.6	126.4	145.4	155.5	159.4	164.0	165 to 167	167 to 171
Value of inventory chg.	-1.6	3.4	-1.5	1.1	.8	4.9	-5.3	7.6	-1.9	-9 to -11	7 to 11
Total gross income	98.3	100.6	102.9	108.7	127.2	150.4	150.1	167.1	162.2	155 to 157	176 to 180
Expenses											
Cash expenses ⁴	59.6	61.7	67.8	72.0	81.0	97.3	105.3	111.5	113.8	109 to 111	118 to 122
Total expenses	71.0	75.0	82.7	88.9	99.5	118.1	128.6	137.0	140.1	135 to 137	144 to 148
Income											
Net cash income	34.2	29.0	29.3	27.3	36.2	37.4	38.1	34.7	36.3	41 to 43	34 to 38
Total net farm income	27.3	25.6	20.1	19.8	27.7	32.3	21.5	30.1	22.1	20 to 22	30 to 34
Deflated total net farm income ⁵	23.7	20.4	15.2	14.1	18.4	19.7	12.0	15.4	10.7	9 to 11	13 to 15
Off-farm income ⁶	28.1	23.9	26.7	26.1	29.7	35.3	37.7	39.9	39.4	39 to 41	41 to 45

F = Forecast. ¹Includes net CCC loans. ²Income from machine hire and custom work, farm recreational income, and direct government payments.

³Imputed gross rental value of farm dwellings and value of home consumption. ⁴Excludes depreciation of farm capital, perquisites to hired labor, and expenses associated with farm dwellings, and includes net rent to all landlords. ⁵Deflated by the GNP implicit price deflator, 1972=100. ⁶Reflects changes in farm definition in 1975 and 1977.

Cash receipts from farming

	1983											1984		
	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	
Farm marketings and CCC loans¹	9,991	9,679	9,129	9,916	10,825	11,688	12,121	14,756	13,974	12,617	12,037	9,173	10,199	
Livestock and products	6,182	6,028	5,506	5,822	5,260	5,971	5,875	6,245	5,595	6,065	6,027	5,517	6,159	
Meat animals	3,740	3,661	3,008	3,263	2,892	3,419	3,245	3,548	3,005	3,372	3,302	3,043	3,507	
Dairy products	1,624	1,590	1,659	1,578	1,570	1,550	1,501	1,509	1,456	1,528	1,563	1,461	1,557	
Poultry and eggs	735	685	757	902	809	929	964	963	1,042	1,071	1,039	931	1,001	
Other	83	92	82	79	189	73	165	225	92	84	123	82	94	
Crops	3,809	3,651	3,623	4,094	5,565	5,717	6,248	8,511	8,379	6,562	6,010	3,656	4,040	
Food grains	406	305	326	926	1,833	1,426	877	888	692	601	511	391	463	
Feed crops	1,294	986	1,013	1,230	1,080	1,161	1,247	1,211	1,599	1,240	1,513	968	696	
Cotton (lint and seed)	-104	-8	106	97	62	82	135	1,027	1,352	1,081	694	279	166	
Tobacco	29	35	5	0	71	579	501	268	379	459	343	36	12	
Oil-bearing crops	727	554	427	452	833	855	1,227	2,750	1,905	1,187	1,564	672	1,115	
Vegetables and melons	587	713	771	491	544	875	935	942	593	625	612	553	696	
Fruits and tree nuts	236	315	375	479	663	511	709	749	751	483	222	235	221	
Other	634	751	600	419	479	428	615	676	1,108	886	551	522	671	
Government payments	148	706	288	243	167	72	129	256	230	554	58	215	24	
Total cash receipts²	10,139	10,385	9,417	10,159	10,992	11,760	12,250	15,012	14,204	13,171	12,095	9,388	10,223	

¹Receipts from loans represent value of loans minus value of redemptions during the month. ²Cash receipts estimates reported in this issue for 1983 contain revisions due to a more complete accounting for CCC loans repaid, which has the effect of reducing sales.

Cash receipts¹ from farm marketings, by States, January-March

State	Livestock and products		Crops ²		Total ²	
	1983	1984	1983	1984	1983	1984
\$Mil.						
North Atlantic						
Maine	57.5	105.9	35.8	61.6	93.3	167.5
New Hampshire	19.7	20.2	5.8	8.8	26.6	28.9
Vermont	97.6	99.5	7.2	7.8	104.9	107.2
Massachusetts	33.3	34.3	31.8	36.1	65.1	69.4
Rhode Island	3.5	3.1	3.9	3.9	7.4	7.0
Connecticut	47.8	58.7	38.6	38.0	86.5	96.7
New York	471.9	500.2	125.9	135.6	597.7	635.8
New Jersey	31.3	33.3	46.4	44.1	77.7	77.4
Pennsylvania	551.2	581.2	208.3	200.9	759.4	782.1
North Central						
Ohio	384.9	378.6	510.7	475.9	895.6	854.5
Indiana	419.2	434.9	665.0	359.7	1,084.2	794.6
Illinois	625.5	554.8	2,353.7	1,484.1	2,979.3	2,038.9
Michigan	293.3	312.3	355.8	341.5	649.1	653.8
Wisconsin	980.8	983.2	245.1	238.6	1,225.8	1,221.8
Minnesota	912.1	799.4	766.7	615.0	1,678.8	1,314.4
Iowa	1,662.3	1,342.9	1,523.6	863.8	3,185.9	2,206.7
Missouri	538.7	599.3	396.8	401.2	935.5	1,000.5
North Dakota	221.5	199.5	511.7	270.7	733.1	470.2
South Dakota	527.0	447.8	229.0	211.1	756.0	658.9
Nebraska	1,070.4	1,188.0	923.8	356.6	1,994.2	1,544.6
Kansas	1,037.8	813.4	623.6	411.6	1,661.4	1,225.0
Southern						
Delaware	62.1	104.1	14.6	16.3	76.7	120.3
Maryland	166.2	210.9	62.7	50.8	228.9	261.7
Virginia	223.9	220.8	93.0	80.3	316.9	301.1
West Virginia	42.3	38.2	12.0	10.0	54.2	48.3
North Carolina	394.7	451.3	222.6	165.7	617.3	617.0
South Carolina	101.6	111.5	113.8	99.0	215.4	210.5
Georgia	447.4	510.4	176.4	193.7	623.8	704.1
Florida	235.8	248.8	1,171.8	891.1	1,407.6	1,139.9
Kentucky	242.5	268.5	441.0	359.7	683.5	628.2
Tennessee	235.2	220.7	209.3	169.1	444.6	389.7
Alabama	289.1	357.2	122.8	111.4	411.9	468.6
Mississippi	202.5	256.0	265.6	276.4	468.0	532.4
Arkansas	343.3	429.3	223.6	287.3	566.9	716.6
Louisiana	114.2	128.2	229.4	293.2	343.6	421.3
Oklahoma	589.1	346.2	226.2	204.7	815.3	550.9
Texas	1,332.4	1,406.6	1,109.8	656.1	2,442.2	2,062.6
Western						
Montana	185.3	194.4	274.5	161.8	459.8	356.2
Idaho	208.7	209.7	222.2	232.3	430.9	442.1
Wyoming	88.8	111.8	19.9	22.7	108.7	134.5
Colorado	561.4	541.9	215.2	218.6	776.6	760.5
New Mexico	188.7	132.7	44.4	46.5	233.1	179.2
Arizona	206.8	183.8	201.7	282.6	408.5	466.5
Utah	104.4	118.2	28.9	28.4	133.3	146.6
Nevada	44.6	33.4	20.5	20.9	65.1	54.3
Washington	264.6	239.5	417.1	481.9	681.6	721.3
Dregon	146.5	132.2	206.4	236.1	352.9	368.3
California	880.6	984.3	1,260.6	1,533.6	2,141.2	2,517.9
Alaska	1.6	1.6	1.4	1.4	3.0	3.2
Hawaii	18.0	19.7	108.2	109.6	126.2	129.4
United States	17,909.9	17,702.5	17,325.5	13,707.1	35,235.4	31,409.6

¹ Estimates as of the first of current month. ²Sales of farm products include receipts from loans reported minus value of redemptions during the period. Rounded data may not add.

Farm Prices: Received and Paid

Indexes of prices received and paid by farmers, U.S. average

	Annual			1983			1984				
	1981	1982	1983	May	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May p	
	1977=100										
Prices Received											
All farm products	139	133	135	137	140	144	144	145	146	144	144
All crops	134	121	129	129	137	138	137	139	140	140	144
Food grains	166	146	148	154	144	145	142	145	150	148	148
Feed grains and hay	141	120	144	148	151	152	150	153	158	161	161
Feed grains	145	120	146	148	153	154	151	155	160	163	163
Cotton	111	92	104	105	111	104	109	116	113	123	123
Tobacco	140	153	156	157	151	151	150	149	149	156	156
Oil-bearing crops	110	88	102	92	118	121	114	119	121	126	126
Fruit	130	175	128	129	142	129	128	130	134	161	161
Fresh market ¹	132	187	129	130	148	132	130	132	137	170	170
Commercial vegetables	136	127	131	141	145	164	169	155	136	113	113
Fresh market	135	120	130	141	150	171	178	160	136	106	106
Potatoes ²	177	125	123	127	139	153	157	159	170	171	171
Livestock and products	143	145	141	144	143	150	151	151	151	145	145
Meat animals	150	155	147	155	143	151	154	158	156	153	153
Dairy products	142	140	140	137	142	140	138	136	135	133	133
Poultry and eggs	116	110	118	111	147	164	160	149	155	133	133
Prices paid											
Commodities and services	150	156	160	161	163	164	165	165	166	166	166
Interest, taxes, and wage rates	148	149	153	153	155	156	156	157	158	157	157
Production items	134	122	134	134	143	144	142	142	143	143	143
Feed	164	164	160	167	156	156	161	161	158	154	154
Feeder livestock	138	141	141	141	142	142	142	142	153	153	153
Seed	144	144	137	138	136	136	136	146	146	147	147
Fertilizer	111	119	125	126	126	126	126	126	126	129	129
Agricultural chemicals	213	210	202	203	201	202	204	203	203	204	204
Fuels & energy	147	153	152	153	149	148	148	148	147	148	148
Farm & motor supplies	143	159	170	169	178	178	178	179	180	181	181
Autos & trucks	152	165	174	172	177	177	177	180	180	180	180
Tractors & self-propelled machinery	146	160	171	168	174	174	174	177	177	177	177
Other machinery	134	135	138	138	137	137	138	138	139	139	139
Building & fencing	137	143	148	147	147	151	151	151	151	151	151
Farm services & cash rent	211	233	236	251	251	256	256	256	256	256	256
Interest payable per acre on farm real estate debt	123	131	140	137	137	145	145	145	145	145	145
Taxes payable per acre on farm real estate	137	143	147	147	147	152	152	152	152	152	152
Wage rates (seasonally adjusted)	151	154	158	160	161	162	163	164	164	164	164
Production items, interest, taxes, and wage rates	633	609	616	624	641	660	658	663	665	659	659
Prices received (1910-14=100)	1,035	1,076	1,105	1,106	1,119	1,128	1,132	1,138	1,141	1,141	1,141
Prices paid, etc. (Parity index) (1910-14=100)	61	57	56	56	57	59	58	58	58	58	58
Parity ratio ³											

¹ Fresh market for noncitrus and fresh market and processing for citrus. ² Includes sweetpotatoes and dry edible beans. ³ Ratio of Index of prices received to Index of prices paid, taxes, and wage rates. (1910-14=100). p = preliminary.

Prices received by farmers, U.S. average

	Annual*			1983		1984				
	1981	1982	1983	May	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May p
Crops										
All wheat (\$/bu.)	3.88	3.52	3.52	3.75	3.47	3.50	3.40	3.49	3.63	3.59
Rice, rough (\$/cwt.)	11.90	8.36	8.31	8.23	8.66	8.57	8.85	8.63	8.49	8.08
Corn (\$/bu.)	2.92	2.37	2.99	3.03	3.15	3.16	3.11	3.21	3.32	3.36
Sorghum (\$/cwt.)	4.72	4.00	4.89	5.05	4.93	4.93	4.74	4.85	5.00	5.16
All hay, baled (\$/ton)	67.70	68.60	74.80	83.90	77.90	80.00	81.20	80.50	82.50	84.90
Soybeans (\$/bu.)	6.92	5.78	6.73	6.06	7.74	7.85	7.29	7.68	7.82	8.24
Cotton, upland (cts./lb.)	67.1	55.5	63.2	63.6	67.3	62.7	65.7	70.5	68.1	74.5
Potatoes (\$/cwt.)	6.95	5.10	4.98	5.50	5.30	6.10	6.28	6.45	6.94	6.79
Dry edible beans (\$/cwt.)	28.60	16.80	18.20	15.50	24.40	22.10	21.30	20.30	21.10	22.70
Apples for fresh use (cts./lb.)	13.2	15.4	13.3	11.9	14.6	14.3	15.9	16.1	15.5	15.4
Pears for fresh use (\$/ton)	264	300	287	320	238	193	201	165	133	86
Oranges, all uses (\$/box) ¹	3.77	7.47	3.68	4.64	4.40	3.26	3.98	4.04	4.44	6.69
Grapefruit, all uses (\$/box) ¹	3.65	2.04	2.02	1.97	1.69	2.35	1.95	3.17	3.92	3.60
Livestock										
Beef cattle (\$/cwt.)	58.50	57.00	55.70	59.90	54.20	57.10	59.70	61.70	60.10	58.10
Calves (\$/cwt.)	64.50	60.20	62.10	66.20	60.60	60.90	63.90	63.70	62.30	61.60
Hogs (\$/cwt.)	43.40	54.00	46.20	45.90	44.20	48.50	45.40	45.80	47.50	47.80
Lambs (\$/cwt.)	55.40	54.60	55.50	59.60	58.90	60.00	59.20	58.20	60.60	60.50
All milk, sold to plants (\$/cwt.)	13.80	13.60	13.60	13.30	13.80	13.60	13.40	13.20	13.10	12.90
Milk, manu. grade (\$/cwt.)	12.70	12.70	12.60	12.50	12.60	12.50	12.40	12.30	12.30	12.10
Broilers (cts./lb.)	28.0	26.8	29.2	26.4	33.7	36.9	37.4	37.8	34.8	33.5
Eggs (cts./doz.) ¹	58.5	63.0	56.1	60.8	83.4	96.1	92.9	79.4	91.4	68.9
Turkeys (cts./lb.)	38.5	37.5	36.1	35.0	45.4	46.6	41.3	41.6	43.3	42.7
Wool (cts./lb.) ¹	91.1	68.0	65.4	65.0	71.4	63.7	63.7	72.4	86.1	87.8

¹ Equivalent on-tree returns. ² Average of all eggs sold by producers including hatching eggs and eggs sold at retail. ³ Average local market price, excluding incentive payments. *Calendar year averages. p = preliminary.

Producer and Consumer Prices

Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers, U.S. average (not seasonally adjusted)

	Annual			1983			1984				
	1983	Apr	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	
1967=100											
Consumer price index, all items	298.4	295.5	301.8	302.6	303.1	303.5	305.2	306.6	307.3	308.8	
Consumer price index, less food	298.3	294.7	302.3	303.2	303.9	304.0	304.8	305.9	306.8	308.6	
All food	291.7	291.9	292.6	292.9	292.5	293.9	299.4	302.1	302.2	302.3	
Food away from home	319.9	318.0	322.2	323.9	324.8	325.5	327.2	328.5	329.8	330.9	
Food at home	282.2	283.4	282.5	282.3	281.4	283.0	290.2	293.6	293.1	292.8	
Meats ¹	267.2	273.3	262.6	260.4	258.6	258.3	266.4	270.0	268.8	268.9	
Beef and veal	272.3	279.4	268.0	266.2	265.7	266.0	274.9	280.9	279.9	280.8	
Pork	255.8	262.1	250.2	246.4	241.1	240.3	250.8	250.6	248.6	247.7	
Poultry	197.5	191.0	204.4	199.6	201.7	209.8	217.5	225.5	223.2	222.3	
Fish	374.9	379.4	372.6	374.1	374.9	376.4	383.4	386.2	385.3	387.3	
Eggs	187.1	174.9	193.3	200.1	208.2	234.0	266.5	270.3	237.2	249.6	
Dairy products ²	250.0	250.1	250.2	250.1	250.2	249.9	250.8	250.9	250.8	251.5	
Fats and oils ³	263.1	258.6	264.8	271.1	275.4	278.2	279.7	281.1	280.7	282.4	
Fruits and vegetables	292.2	294.9	297.6	296.7	288.9	292.6	311.0	321.0	323.2	315.3	
Fresh	297.6	304.3	306.6	304.9	288.7	294.2	327.8	342.8	344.3	326.5	
Processed	288.8	287.1	290.2	290.3	291.6	293.3	295.1	299.9	302.8	305.7	
Cereals and bakery products	292.5	291.1	293.7	294.0	295.7	297.1	299.8	300.3	301.5	302.8	
Sugar and sweets	374.4	373.2	376.4	375.5	376.0	377.7	380.0	381.2	384.8	387.7	
Beverages, nonalcoholic	432.2	431.8	431.2	436.4	435.2	433.7	439.1	441.8	443.5	443.6	
Apparel commodities less footwear	180.8	179.7	185.3	185.4	185.3	183.4	179.8	179.3	182.3	182.6	
Footwear	206.9	207.5	208.0	208.6	209.1	207.9	206.7	206.4	207.7	208.9	
Tobacco products	291.0	284.9	298.0	299.0	299.9	299.9	304.3	305.4	305.6	305.9	
Beverages, alcoholic	216.5	216.1	218.4	218.9	218.6	218.1	219.0	219.9	220.7	221.3	

¹ Beef, veal, lamb, pork, and processed meat. ² Includes butter. ³ Excludes butter.

Producer price indexes, U.S. average (not seasonally adjusted)

	Annual			1983			1984			
	1981	1982	1983 p	Apr	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
	1967=100									
Finished goods¹	269.8	280.6	285.2	283.1	286.8	287.2	289.4	290.6	291.7	291.4
Consumer foods	253.6	259.3	261.8	262.9	261.9	264.3	272.2	274.7	277.0	275.0
Fresh fruit	228.9	236.9	251.2	250.7	269.3	258.9	232.9	232.2	220.3	213.2
Fresh and dried vegetables	278.0	246.5	248.9	257.9	257.4	263.1	316.5	355.3	357.4	283.5
Eggs	187.1	178.7	n.a.	170.0	n.a.	n.a.	282.4	280.7	235.8	264.4
Bakery products	268.2	275.4	285.7	283.7	290.5	291.4	292.8	294.8	295.7	294.5
Meats	239.0	250.6	236.7	248.1	216.6	227.1	239.9	241.2	239.5	239.8
Beef and veal	246.8	245.0	236.7	255.5	218.5	230.9	241.6	248.6	253.8	247.4
Pork	218.1	251.1	227.6	229.8	199.2	213.1	232.2	222.6	208.7	218.0
Poultry	193.3	178.7	185.0	168.2	202.1	206.7	214.7	215.6	218.2	211.5
Fish	377.8	422.4	448.2	476.7	450.8	422.6	465.1	436.6	588.4	566.5
Dairy products	245.6	248.9	250.6	251.0	251.2	249.2	248.5	248.6	249.0	249.2
Processed fruits and vegetables	261.2	274.5	277.1	273.7	279.8	281.6	285.3	291.8	293.2	295.6
Shortening and cooking oils	238.0	234.4	256.1	233.8	296.3	290.3	291.1	285.7	290.9	297.8
Consumer finished goods less foods	276.5	287.8	291.3	287.3	293.0	292.5	292.5	293.1	293.9	293.7
Beverages, alcoholic	189.5	197.8	205.0	204.4	207.1	206.1	207.6	208.7	207.8	210.0
Soft drinks	305.1	319.1	327.4	326.8	330.3	331.6	332.6	334.5	337.1	337.6
Apparel	186.0	194.4	197.1	195.8	198.7	198.4	198.7	199.8	200.7	200.3
Footwear	240.9	246.0	250.1	250.0	251.4	251.3	251.7	251.6	253.3	251.8
Tobacco products	268.3	323.2	365.3	354.1	376.7	377.0	389.4	390.3	390.3	390.4
Intermediate materials²	306.0	310.4	312.4	308.7	315.5	315.7	316.6	317.4	319.6	320.2
Materials for food manufacturing	260.4	255.1	258.4	255.1	260.0	262.9	268.3	267.9	269.2	271.3
Flour	191.9	183.4	186.4	185.6	185.1	183.5	182.4	181.4	184.2	188.3
Refined sugar ³	171.8	161.3	172.0	171.9	173.8	173.8	173.8	173.4	174.2	174.5
Crude vegetable oils	185.4	160.1	193.8	161.4	229.1	221.8	241.4	220.3	247.7	253.6
Crude materials⁴	329.0	319.5	323.6	325.8	324.0	327.5	333.7	332.8	339.4	340.1
Foodstuffs and feedstuffs	257.4	247.8	252.3	256.8	251.8	256.0	264.2	260.7	270.7	270.4
Fruits and vegetables ⁵	267.3	253.7	261.7	266.6	274.7	273.0	290.4	311.5	307.0	262.8
Grains	248.4	210.9	240.4	243.8	257.5	243.6	245.5	235.3	250.9	262.1
Livestock	248.0	257.8	243.1	260.6	220.5	238.2	250.7	251.9	260.8	260.8
Poultry, live	201.2	191.9	206.5	170.8	238.5	241.2	252.6	251.3	258.4	240.8
Fibers, plant and animal	242.0	202.9	227.0	213.6	243.6	244.1	229.3	232.7	250.3	252.3
Milk	287.4	282.5	282.0	280.8	283.2	281.4	279.1	275.7	274.2	272.7
Oilseeds	277.6	214.5	245.3	224.4	286.8	271.5	273.1	251.0	274.9	280.1
Coffee, green	330.1	311.5	300.1	298.8	301.3	301.3	301.3	301.3	301.3	310.2
Tobacco, leaf	246.9	269.9	274.2	274.2	267.2	264.8	265.6	263.4	n.a.	n.a.
Sugar, raw cane	272.7	278.5	315.9	319.8	314.2	311.6	309.4	315.7	314.8	314.4
All commodities	293.4	299.3	303.1	300.6	305.5	306.1	308.1	308.8	311.1	311.4
Industrial commodities	304.1	312.3	315.8	312.4	318.3	318.4	319.2	320.4	321.9	322.5
All foods⁶	251.8	254.4	257.5	258.2	258.0	260.0	268.3	270.3	273.5	271.6
Farm products and Processed foods and feeds	251.5	248.9	253.9	254.7	256.0	257.9	264.4	263.5	268.3	267.9
Farm products	254.9	242.4	248.2	250.5	251.0	254.0	263.3	261.5	267.4	265.4
Processed foods and feeds	248.7	251.5	256.0	256.0	257.6	259.0	263.9	263.5	267.8	268.2
Cereal and bakery products	255.5	253.8	260.9	258.8	265.2	265.1	266.1	267.0	267.9	268.2
Sugar and confectionery	275.9	269.7	292.8	287.4	297.7	297.5	299.0	300.6	299.3	301.8
Beverages	248.0	256.9	263.6	263.0	266.3	266.5	268.4	270.0	270.2	271.6

¹ Commodities ready for sale to ultimate consumer. ² Commodities requiring further processing to become finished goods. ³ All types and sizes of refined sugar. ⁴ Products entering market for the first time which have not been manufactured at that point. ⁵ Fresh and dried. ⁶ Includes all raw, intermediate, and Processed foods (excludes soft drinks, alcoholic beverages, and manufactured animal feeds). n.a. = not available.

Farm-Retail Price Spreads

Market basket of farm foods

	Annual			1983-			1984			
	1981	1982	1983 p	Apr	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
Market basket¹										
Retail cost (1967=100)	257.1	266.4	268.7	269.9	267.7	269.7	277.2	280.7	279.9	279.4
Farm value (1967=100)	243.0	245.7	240.3	242.2	237.4	244.6	259.0	259.8	254.1	259.9
Farm-retail spread (1967=100) . . .	265.4	278.6	285.5	286.2	285.6	284.5	288.1	292.7	294.3	290.9
Farm value/retail cost (%)	35.0	34.2	33.1	33.2	32.8	33.6	34.6	34.3	33.8	34.4
Meat products										
Retail cost (1967=100)	257.8	270.3	267.2	273.3	258.6	258.3	266.4	270.0	268.8	268.9
Farm value (1967=100)	235.5	251.3	235.8	252.4	210.4	221.7	244.3	247.1	242.4	250.1
Farm-retail spread (1967=100)	284.0	292.4	304.0	297.8	315.1	301.1	292.3	296.7	300.0	291.0
Farm value/retail cost (%)	49.3	50.2	47.6	49.8	43.9	46.3	49.5	49.4	48.6	50.1
Dairy products										
Retail cost (1967=100)	243.6	247.0	250.0	250.1	250.2	249.9	250.8	250.9	250.8	251.5
Farm value (1967=100)	265.9	261.9	262.1	262.2	264.0	260.5	259.1	255.2	253.6	255.0
Farm-retail spread (1967=100)	224.1	233.9	239.3	239.4	238.1	240.6	243.5	247.1	248.3	248.4
Farm value/retail cost (%)	51.0	49.6	49.0	49.0	48.3	48.7	48.3	47.6	47.3	47.4
Poultry										
Retail cost (1967=100)	198.6	194.9	197.5	191.0	201.7	209.8	217.5	225.5	223.2	222.3
Farm value (1967=100)	210.2	201.9	213.0	182.3	244.5	251.8	270.6	265.8	268.5	254.5
Farm-retail spread (1967=100)	187.4	188.1	182.4	199.4	160.3	169.2	166.2	186.6	179.3	191.1
Farm value/retail cost (%)	52.0	50.7	53.1	46.9	59.6	59.0	61.2	58.0	59.2	56.3
Eggs										
Retail cost (1967=100)	183.8	178.7	187.1	174.9	208.2	234.0	266.5	270.3	237.2	249.6
Farm value (1967=100)	206.5	189.8	206.1	183.3	259.5	284.3	332.6	318.4	263.4	313.1
Farm-retail spread (1967=100)	150.9	162.7	159.5	162.7	134.1	161.4	170.9	200.9	199.4	157.8
Farm value/retail cost (%)	66.4	62.8	65.1	62.0	73.1	71.8	73.8	69.6	65.6	74.1
Cereal and bakery products										
Retail cost (1967=100)	271.1	283.4	292.5	291.1	259.7	297.1	299.8	300.3	301.5	302.8
Farm value (1967=100)	204.4	178.8	186.6	186.8	195.4	190.1	192.3	194.9	194.7	202.5
Farm-retail spread (1967=100)	284.9	305.1	314.0	312.7	316.4	319.2	322.0	322.1	323.6	323.6
Farm value/retail cost (%)	12.9	10.8	11.1	10.9	11.3	11.0	11.0	11.1	11.1	11.5
Fresh fruits										
Retail cost (1967=100)	286.1	323.2	303.6	295.7	291.2	281.0	301.1	305.5	310.8	313.3
Farm value (1967=100)	238.8	288.8	220.6	170.6	256.4	285.8	283.4	279.4	252.9	255.8
Farm-retail spread (1967=100)	307.3	338.7	340.8	351.8	306.8	278.9	309.1	317.2	336.8	339.1
Farm value/retail cost (%)	25.9	27.7	22.5	17.9	27.3	31.5	29.1	28.3	25.2	25.3
Fresh vegetables										
Retail costs (1967=100)	287.4	288.9	299.3	316.0	297.4	316.6	363.6	386.6	385.4	347.4
Farm value (1967=100)	285.6	261.3	267.4	278.9	274.9	295.6	328.9	359.5	369.1	332.0
Farm-retail spread (1967=100)	288.3	301.8	314.3	333.4	308.0	326.5	379.9	399.3	393.0	354.7
Farm value/retail cost (%)	31.8	28.9	28.6	28.2	29.6	29.9	28.9	29.7	30.6	30.6
Processed fruits and vegetables										
Retail cost (1967=100)	271.5	286.0	288.8	287.1	291.6	293.3	295.1	299.9	302.8	305.7
Farm value (1967=100)	290.6	269.2	252.5	246.5	254.5	256.3	254.0	259.8	265.3	268.7
Farm-retail spread (1967=100)	267.3	289.7	296.8	296.2	300.0	301.6	304.2	308.8	311.1	314.3
Farm value/retail costs (%)	19.4	17.1	15.8	15.5	15.8	15.8	15.6	15.7	16.9	15.8
Fats and oils										
Retail cost (1967=100)	267.1	259.9	263.1	285.6	275.4	278.2	279.7	281.1	280.7	282.4
Farm value (1967=100)	262.4	207.8	251.0	224.6	291.4	298.5	324.9	312.0	330.1	339.1
Farm-retail spread (1967=100)	268.9	279.9	267.8	271.7	269.3	270.4	262.4	269.2	261.7	260.6
Farm value/retail cost (%)	27.3	22.2	26.5	24.1	29.4	29.8	32.2	30.8	32.7	33.4

¹ Retail costs are based on indexes of retail prices for domestically produced farm foods from the CPI-U published monthly by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The farm value is the payment to farmers for quantity of farm product equivalent to retail unit, less allowance for byproduct. Farm values are based on prices at first point of sale and may include marketing charges such as grading and packing for some commodities. The farm-retail spread, the difference between the retail price and the farm value, represents charges for assembling, processing, transporting, and distributing these foods.

Note: Annual historical data on farm-retail price spreads may be found in *Food Consumption, Prices and Expenditure, Statistical Bulletin 702, ERS, USDA*.

Farm-retail price spreads

	Annual			1983			1984			
	1981	1982	1983	Apr	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
Beef, Choice										
Retail price ¹ (cts./lb.)	238.7	242.5	238.1	244.5	231.1	230.3	239.3	243.9	244.6	244.8
Net carcass value ² (cts.)	149.3	150.7	145.4	160.3	136.0	148.3	155.9	152.1	155.0	152.9
Net farm value ³ (cts.)	138.5	140.5	136.2	151.0	126.6	138.4	146.1	144.5	147.5	145.5
Farm-retail spread (cts.)	100.2	102.0	101.9	93.5	104.5	91.9	93.2	99.4	97.1	99.3
Carcass-retail spread ⁴ (cts.)	89.4	91.8	92.7	84.2	95.1	82.0	83.4	91.8	89.6	91.9
Farm-carcass spread ⁵ (cts.)	10.8	10.2	9.2	9.3	9.4	9.9	9.8	7.6	7.5	7.4
Farm value/retail price (%)	58	58	57	62	55	60	61	59	60	59
Pork										
Retail price ¹ (cts./lb.)	152.4	175.4	169.8	173.9	159.0	158.1	162.2	162.9	159.4	159.8
Wholesale value ³ (cts.)	106.7	121.8	108.9	108.8	100.8	110.8	112.9	109.2	103.8	107.1
Net farm value ³ (cts.)	70.3	88.0	76.5	75.7	62.4	76.6	79.3	73.6	74.1	76.0
Farm-retail spread (cts.)	82.1	87.4	93.3	98.2	96.6	81.5	82.9	89.3	85.3	83.8
Wholesale-retail spread ⁴ (cts.)	45.7	53.6	60.9	65.1	58.2	47.3	49.3	53.7	65.6	52.7
Farm-wholesale spread ⁵ (cts.)	36.4	33.8	32.4	33.1	38.4	34.2	33.6	35.6	29.7	31.1
Farm value/retail price (%)	46	50	45	44	39	48	49	45	46	48

¹ Estimated weighted average price of retail cuts from pork and yield grade 3 beef carcasses. Retail prices from BLS. ² Value of carcass quantity equivalent to 1 lb. of retail cuts; beef adjusted for value of fat and bone byproducts. ³ Market value to producer for quantity of live animal equivalent to 1 lb. retail cuts minus value of byproducts. ⁴ Represents charges for retailing and other marketing services such as fabricating, wholesaling, and in-city transportation. ⁵ Represents charges made for livestock marketing, processing, and transportation to city where consumed.

Price indexes of food marketing costs¹

	Annual			1982			1983			1984	
	1981	1982	1983	IV	I	II	III	IV	I p		
1967=100											
Labor-hourly earnings and benefits	321.3	342.7	354.8	347.8	351.3	353.7	355.1	358.7	364.0		
Processing	309.2	330.0	340.8	333.9	338.8	341.5	339.8	343.4	349.6		
Wholesaling	309.5	334.7	350.7	340.9	346.1	348.3	352.1	355.8	361.1		
Retailing	338.6	358.9	370.4	364.8	366.1	368.3	371.7	375.3	379.5		
Packaging and containers	280.9	275.2	280.2	269.8	272.3	278.7	282.2	289.6	300.4		
Paperboard boxes and containers	258.2	254.9	250.6	246.6	244.6	248.8	251.3	259.2	268.4		
Metal cans	345.8	363.6	372.4	364.6	365.4	379.3	372.5	380.1	394.6		
Paper bags and related products	258.9	264.4	265.4	264.5	265.1	264.3	264.6	267.5	271.7		
Plastic films and bottles	262.5	200.0	226.1	184.4	201.3	215.4	236.7	251.1	272.4		
Glass containers	328.6	355.5	352.6	358.0	355.5	352.4	351.3	350.3	351.2		
Metal foil	203.3	213.2	214.0	211.6	211.6	211.8	214.0	218.8	223.7		
Transportation services	345.9	371.0	374.4	370.6	374.3	374.2	374.2	375.1	390.5		
Advertising	234.9	260.1	280.1	266.0	272.4	279.1	283.5	285.8	294.4		
Fuel and power	669.2	705.1	703.2	729.6	705.5	689.6	710.2	707.3	710.9		
Electric	367.9	406.0	418.0	407.8	411.0	413.7	427.2	419.9	424.1		
Petroleum	1,056.2	1,012.4	889.6	1,031.7	929.0	843.6	884.6	902.0	915.2		
Natural gas	826.3	990.3	1,155.4	1,085.2	1,120.3	1,171.0	1,177.2	1,151.4	1,137.3		
Communications, water and sewage	168.7	186.7	199.6	191.6	196.9	198.4	200.6	202.4	212.4		
Rent	255.0	264.3	260.6	265.2	260.8	261.3	259.5	260.9	259.9		
Maintenance and repair	304.0	325.1	338.2	330.7	333.3	336.5	339.1	344.0	348.3		
Business services	254.2	277.2	292.0	284.8	288.3	290.0	292.9	296.6	299.5		
Supplies	283.8	289.1	286.6	288.4	286.7	285.5	286.7	287.1	287.3		
Property taxes and insurance	294.0	309.9	327.5	316.3	321.6	325.9	329.9	332.7	337.9		
Interest, short-term	288.8	232.6	174.0	172.4	163.2	168.4	184.7	179.8	184.9		
Total marketing cost index	317.5	333.9	342.3	336.8	338.5	340.6	343.5	346.8	353.7		

¹ Indexes measure changes in employee wages and benefits and in prices of supplies and services used in processing, wholesaling, and retailing U.S. farm foods purchased for at-home consumption. p = preliminary.

Note: Annual historical data on food marketing cost indexes may be found in *Food Consumption, Prices, and Expenditures, Statistical Bulletin 702*, ERS, USDA.

Livestock and Products

Poultry and eggs

	Annual			1983			1984			
	1981	1982	1983 p	Apr	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
Broilers										
Federally inspected slaughter, certified (mil. lb.)	11,906	12,039	12,381	1,054.3	937.2	941.6	1,028.9	984.5	1,061.7	—
Wholesale price, 9-city, lcts./lb. ¹	46.3	44.0	49.4	43.5	57.6	57.1	62.1	61.2	62.0	56.0
Price of broiler grower feed (\$/ton)	227	210	223	215	243	240	243	243	242	246
Broiler-feed price ratio (lb.) ²	2.6	2.5	2.6	2.3	2.7	2.8	3.0	3.1	3.1	2.8
Broilers, stocks beginning of period (mil. lb.)	22.4	32.6	22.3	20.9	28.9	22.9	21.2	23.3	16.4	14.4
Average weekly placements of broiler chicks, 19 States (mil.)	77.1	80.2	80.4	84.8	74.7	79.9	79.5	81.1	85.2	86.6
Turkeys										
Federally inspected slaughter, certified (mil. lb.)	2,509	2,459	2,563	166.5	288.7	189.0	138.1	139.0	154.0	—
Wholesale price, New York, 8-16 lb.										
young hens (cts./lb.)	60.7	60.8	60.5	54.4	67.0	76.1	72.2	64.7	66.1	67.0
Price of turkey grower feed (\$/ton)	249	229	247	241	264	262	257	256	252	258
Turkey-feed price ratio (lb.) ³	3.1	3.3	2.9	2.7	3.0	3.5	3.6	3.2	3.3	3.4
Turkeys, stocks beginning of period (mil. lb.)	198.0	238.4	203.9	185.3	460.1	251.6	161.8	161.6	145.8	149.4
Poults placed in U.S. (mil.)	(*)	(*)	181.8	19.8	11.0	12.5	14.0	15.3	18.3	19.1
Eggs										
Farm production (mil.)	69,859	69,680	67,863	5,622	5,566	5,774	5,689	5,328	5,798	5,644
Average number of layers on farms (mil.)	288	286	276	275	277	278	277	277	278	278
Rate of lay (eggs per layer)	243	243	247	20.4	20.1	20.8	20.5	19.3	20.8	20.3
Cartoned price, New York, grade A										
large (cts./doz.) ⁴	73.2	70.1	75.2	67.6	91.8	101.9	115.0	104.0	91.0	—
Price of laying feed (\$/ton)	210	190	204	198	220	219	219	217	214	214
Egg-feed price ratio (lb.) ²	6.0	6.1	6.1	5.8	6.9	7.8	8.8	8.6	7.4	8.5
Stocks, first of month										
Shell (thou. cases)	31	34	34	18	45	18	13	28	17	36
Frozen (mil. lb.)	24.3	23.7	25.4	23.1	14.2	13.4	11.8	11.0	11.4	12.0
Replacement chicks hatched (mil.)	454	444	407	36.7	29.6	34.4	36.8	37.7	45.1	47.2

¹ 12-city composite weighted average beginning April 25, 1983. ² Pounds of feed equal in value to 1 dozen eggs or 1 lb. of broiler or turkey liveweight.

³ Price of cartoned eggs to volume buyers for delivery to retailers. ⁴ Not reported.

Wool

	Annual			1983			1984			
	1981	1982	1983	Apr	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
U.S. wool price, Boston ¹ (cts./lb.)	278	247	212	203	225	228	230	230	230	245
Imported wool price, Boston ¹ (cts./lb.)	292	262	248	241	250	247	247	254	257	252
U.S. mill consumption, scoured										
Apparel wool (thou. lb.)	127,752	105,857	132,404	10,640	11,189	12,363	11,194	12,719	13,887	n.a.
Carpet wool (thou. lb.)	10,896	9,825	11,907	939	713	851	844	814	1,034	n.a.

¹ Wool price delivered at U.S. mills, clean basis, Graded Territory 64's (20.60-22.04 microns) staple 2 1/2" and up. ² Wool price delivered at U.S. mills, clean basis, Australian 60/62's, type 64A (24 micron). Duty since 1982 has been 10.0 cents. n.a. = not available.

Dairy

	Annual			1983			1984			
	1981	1982	1983	Apr	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
Milk prices, Minnesota-Wisconsin,										
3.5% fat (\$/cwt.) ¹	12.57	12.48	12.49	12.51	12.56	12.11	12.05	12.06	12.08	12.07
Price of 16% dairy ration (\$/ton)	192	177	188	182	205	205	205	201	199	199
Milk-feed price ratio (lb.) ²	1.43	1.54	1.45	1.49	1.36	1.35	1.34	1.34	1.33	1.32
Wholesale Prices										
Butter, Grade A ChL (cts./lb.)	148.0	147.7	147.3	147.2	147.2	143.1	140.4	141.2	142.1	142.9
Am. cheese, Wis. assembly pt (cts./lb.)	139.4	138.3	138.3	137.6	140.7	136.7	135.8	135.5	135.9	135.9
Nonfat dry milk, (cts./lb.) ³	93.1	93.2	93.2	93.4	93.4	91.1	90.7	90.7	90.7	90.7
USDA net removals										
Total milk equiv. (mil. lb.) ⁴	12,860.9	14,281.6	16,813.5	1,958.0	674.4	920.0	1,889.0	1,398.2	1,037.9	944.0
Butter (mil. lb.)	351.5	382.0	413.2	53.3	10.4	19.0	61.2	47.2	28.2	19.2
Am. cheese (mil. lb.)	563.0	642.5	832.8	86.3	46.0	52.9	62.5	42.4	45.7	55.1
Nonfat dry milk (mil. lb.)	851.3	948.1	1,061.0	95.9	62.0	63.2	76.2	64.0	65.1	71.1
Milk										
Total milk production (mil. lb.)	133,013	135,802	139,968	11,966	11,000	11,395	11,490	10,905	11,741	11,674
Milk per cow (lb.)	12,177	12,309	12,587	1,079	985	1,022	1,039	995	1,078	1,075
Number of milk cows (thou.)	10,923	11,033	11,120	11,094	11,170	11,146	11,064	10,958	10,890	10,856
Stocks, beginning										
Total milk equiv. (mil. lb.) ⁴	12,958	18,377	20,054	22,220	23,531	23,019	22,646	22,917	23,576	23,610
Commercial (mil. lb.)	5,752	5,398	4,603	5,189	5,280	5,109	5,234	5,216	5,303	5,348
Government (mil. lb.)	7,207	12,980	15,451	17,032	18,251	17,911	17,412	17,700	18,273	18,262
Imports, total equiv. (mil. lb.) ⁴	2,329	2,477	2,616	190	265	368	247	150	171	n.a.
Commercial disappearance										
milk equiv. (mil. lb.)	120,531	122,443	122,790	9,833	10,570	10,520	9,668	9,384	10,631	n.a.
Butter										
Production (mil. lb.)	1,228.2	1,257.0	1,299.2	124.0	98.1	109.6	126.0	113.0	111.1	n.a.
Stocks, beginning (mil. lb.)	304.6	429.2	466.8	529.0	523.9	506.7	499.4	510.6	532.5	529.3
Commercial disappearance (mil. lb.)	869.2	897.3	881.7	63.6	91.1	88.5	61.9	59.3	85.7	n.a.
American cheese										
Production (mil. lb.)	2,642.3	2,752.3	2,927.6	263.4	217.8	236.8	231.1	221.4	247.6	n.a.
Stocks, beginning (mil. lb.)	591.5	889.1	981.4	1,060.4	1,194.3	1,183.7	1,161.5	1,165.2	1,187.2	1,198.6
Commercial disappearance (mil. lb.)	2,147.9	2,166.8	2,083.2	179.0	179.4	177.8	181.5	184.3	191.2	n.a.
Other cheese										
Production (mil. lb.)	1,635.3	1,789.4	1,890.8	149.7	170.4	178.6	156.3	147.7	165.3	n.a.
Stocks, beginning (mil. lb.)	99.3	86.6	82.8	100.2	103.8	104.2	104.9	105.4	103.4	100.2
Commercial disappearance (mil. lb.)	1,875.6	2,044.6	2,133.3	170.3	195.2	217.6	176.1	165.1	186.2	n.a.
Nonfat dry milk										
Production (mil. lb.)	1,314.3	1,400.5	1,499.9	139.2	99.4	111.1	111.9	105.0	109.2	n.a.
Stocks, beginning (mil. lb.)	586.8	889.7	1,282.0	1,305.7	1,405.1	1,373.0	1,394.9	1,413.3	1,404.3	1,421.0
Commercial disappearance (mil. lb.)	464.1	447.7	459.9	35.2	42.5	36.9	44.4	44.4	48.2	n.a.
Frozen dessert Production (mil. gal.)⁴	1,167.7	1,178.2	1,221.5	98.1	82.1	77.2	74.7	89.5	106.9	n.a.

¹ Manufacturing grade milk. ² Pounds of 16% protein ration equal in value to 1 pound of milk. ³ Prices paid f.o.b. Central States production area, high heat spray process. ⁴ Milk-equivalent, fat-solids basis. ⁵ Ice cream, ice milk, and sherbet. n.a. = not available.

Meat animals

	Annual			1983			1984			
	1981	1982	1983	Apr	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
Cattle on feed (7-States)										
Number on feed (thou. head) ¹	7,863	7,201	8,316	7,268	7,683	7,814	8,006	7,917	7,515	7,568
Placed on feed (thou. head)	17,814	20,261	19,727	1,566	1,711	1,736	1,566	1,301	1,764	1,515
Marketings (thou. head)	17,198	18,007	18,680	1,470	1,459	1,425	1,569	1,621	1,594	1,523
Other disappearance (thou. head)	1,263	1,139	1,354	143	121	119	86	82	117	184
Beef steer-corn price ratio,										
Omaha (bu.) ²	22.2	26.5	20.6	21.9	18.3	19.8	21.6	22.1	21.1	20.4
Hog-corn price ratio, Omaha (bu.) ²	15.5	22.9	15.9	15.4	11.9	14.5	16.0	15.3	14.5	14.5
Market prices (\$ per cwt.)										
Slaughter cattle										
Choice steers, Omaha	63.84	64.30	62.52	67.70	59.41	62.85	67.08	67.07	68.60	67.86
Utility cows, Omaha	41.93	39.96	39.35	43.04	34.14	33.58	33.26	39.69	44.01	42.88
Choice vealers, S. St. Paul	77.16	77.70	72.97	77.12	67.50	67.50	64.94	77.50	77.50	77.50
Feeder cattle:										
Choice, Kansas City, 600-700 lb.	66.24	64.82	63.70	68.38	61.00	63.85	65.06	66.45	67.42	67.51
Slaughter hogs:										
Barrows and gilts, 7-markets	44.45	55.44	47.71	47.50	38.79	46.37	49.91	46.31	46.83	48.30
Feeder pigs:										
\$ M. 40-50 lb. (per head)	35.40	51.14	33.96	43.74	24.54	27.65	33.61	43.48	50.12	51.08
Slaughter sheep and lambs:										
Lambs, Choice, San Angelo	58.40	56.44	57.40	65.75	57.94	60.50	60.62	58.75	58.50	65.88
Ewes, Good, San Angelo	26.15	21.80	16.85	20.50	17.17	18.33	20.00	30.40	22.88	22.25
Feeder lambs:										
Choice, San Angelo	56.86	52.97	54.87	65.62	57.69	60.00	59.50	60.15	60.00	65.75
Wholesale meat prices, Midwest										
Choice steer beef, 600-700 lb.	99.84	101.31	97.83	107.76	91.57	99.82	105.74	102.86	105.14	103.50
Canner and Cutter cow beef	84.06	78.96	78.48	84.31	67.99	70.41	70.63	79.45	83.62	80.51
Pork loins, 8-14 lb. ³	96.56	111.51	—	—	—	—	104.36	94.68	88.75	91.86
Pork bellies, 12-14 lb.	52.29	76.54	60.58	64.71	50.86	54.59	65.03	54.68	56.04	58.28
Hams, skinned, 14-17 lb.	77.58	91.47	75.60	70.02	77.26	88.11	70.44	68.80	78.00	77.52
Commercial slaughter (thou. head)*										
Cattle	34,953	35,843	36,649	2,755	3,079	3,161	3,107	2,971	3,090	2,854
Steers	17,508	17,277	17,486	1,394	1,377	1,482	1,465	1,432	1,514	1,400
Heifers	10,027	10,394	10,758	766	881	852	818	826	868	762
Cows	6,643	7,354	7,597	532	756	772	775	659	646	628
Bulls and stags	775	818	808	64	65	55	49	54	62	64
Calves	2,798	3,021	3,076	224	294	284	277	255	285	249
Sheep and lambs	6,008	6,449	6,619	523	528	551	553	561	600	616
Hogs	91,575	82,190	87,584	7,297	8,436	7,812	7,188	6,812	7,802	7,161
Commercial production (mil. lb.)										
Beef	22,214	22,366	23,058	1,727	1,935	1,965	1,913	1,858	1,937	1,776
Veal	415	423	429	32	39	37	39	36	40	36
Lamb and mutton	327	356	368	30	29	30	31	32	35	34
Pork	15,716	14,121	15,120	1,262	1,468	1,350	1,234	1,165	1,338	1,233
Annual				1982			1983			1984
1981	1982	1983	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	

Cattle on feed (13-States)										
Number on feed (thou. head) ¹	9,845	9,028	10,271	8,800	10,271	9,153	9,070	8,465	9,908	9,340
Placed on feed (thou. head)	21,929	24,415	23,756	7,216	5,027	5,894	5,583	7,252	5,511	—
Marketings (thou. head)	21,219	21,799	22,528	5,374	5,694	5,527	5,891	5,416	5,714	\$ 5,690
Other disappearance (thou. head)	1,527	1,373	1,591	371	451	450	297	393	365	—
Hogs and pigs (10-States)*										
Inventory (thou. head) ¹	45,970	42,440	43,430	41,670	42,440	41,840	45,250	45,880	43,430	39,540
Breeding (thou. head) ¹	6,021	5,670	5,605	5,553	5,670	5,928	6,224	5,829	5,805	5,353
Market (thou. head) ¹	39,949	36,770	37,825	36,117	36,770	35,912	39,026	40,051	37,825	34,187
Farrowings (thou. head)	9,821	8,930	9,628	2,363	2,090	2,768	2,400	2,370	1,864	\$ 2,475
Pig crop (thou. head)	72,591	65,767	71,892	17,548	15,543	21,063	17,675	17,611	13,536	—

¹ Beginning of period. ² Bushels of corn equal in value to 100 pounds liveweight. ³ Beginning January 1984 prices are for 14-17 lbs. ⁴ Quarters are Oct. preceding year-Feb. (I), Mar.-May (II), June-Aug. (III), and Sept.-Nov. (IV). ⁵ Intentions. ⁶ Classes estimated.

Crops and Products

Food grains

	Marketing year ¹			1983			1984			
	1980/81	1981/82	1982/83	Apr	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
Wholesale prices										
Wheat, No. 1 HRW, Kansas City (\$/bu.) ²	4.45	4.27	3.94	4.21	3.82	3.85	3.81	3.71	3.85	3.93
Wheat, DNS, Minneapolis (\$/bu.) ²	4.46	4.17	3.94	4.34	4.23	4.21	4.15	4.06	4.20	4.28
Rice, S.W. La. (\$/cwt.) ³	25.95	20.20	18.00	18.50	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.25	19.25	19.25
Wheat										
Exports (mil. bu.)	1,514	1,771	1,509	1,425	107	131	121	116	126	n.a.
Mill grind (mil. bu.)	643	631	656	54	56	55	56	58	58	n.a.
Wheat flour production (mil. cwt.)	290	280	292	24	25	24	25	26	26	n.a.
	Marketing year ¹			1982			1983			1984
	1980/81	1981/82	1982/83	June-Sept	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-May	June-Sept	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar
Wheat										
Stocks, beginning (mil. bu.)	902	989	1,164	1,164	2,987	2,521	1,877	1,541	2,966	2,326
Domestic use										
Food (mil. bu.)	610	602	616	206	162	151	97	210	161	156
Feed and seed (mil. bu.) ⁴	166	254	318	238	14	53	12	316	118	50
Exports (mil. bu.)	1,514	1,771	1,509	546	293	442	228	475	362	364

¹ Beginning June 1 for wheat and August 1 for rice. ² Ordinary protein. ³ Long-grain, milled basis. ⁴ Feed-use approximated by residual. n.a. = not available.

Feed grains

	Marketing year ¹			1983			1984			
	1980/81	1981/82	1982/83	Apr	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
Wholesale prices										
Corn, No. 2 Yellow, St. Louis (\$/bu.)	3.35	2.61	2.98	3.24	3.53	3.45	3.41	3.31	3.55	3.61
Sorghum, No. 2 yellow, Kansas City (\$/cwt.)	5.36	4.29	4.96	5.30	5.25	5.16	5.09	5.03	5.40	5.36
Barley, feed, Minneapolis (\$/bu.)	2.60	2.21	1.76	2.74	2.53	2.39	2.55	2.56	2.65	2.74
Barley, malting, Minneapolis (\$/bu.)	3.84	3.06	2.53	2.68	2.95	2.77	2.85	2.76	2.91	3.04
Exports										
Corn (mil. bu.)	2,355	1,967	1,870	159	197	176	173	159	177	175
Feed grains (mil. metric tons) ²	69.4	58.4	54.0	4.2	5.7	5.3	5.3	4.8	5.4	5.0
	Marketing year ¹			1982			1983			1984
	1980/81	1981/82	1982/83	June-Sept	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-May	June-Sept	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar
Corn										
Stocks, beginning (mil. bu.)	1,618	1,034	2,182	3,904	2,182	8,284	6,247	4,962	3,140	4,934
Domestic use:										
Feed (mil. bu.)	4,139	4,276	4,635	857	1,542	1,360	824	909	1,661	984
Food, seed, ind. (mil. bu.)	735	812	898	342	203	169	153	373	220	183
Feed grains³										
Stocks, beginning (mil. metric tons)	52.4	34.6	68.4	114.3	82.4	247.0	185.7	147.6	108.5	155.6
Domestic use:										
Feed (mil. metric tons)	123.0	130.6	142.8	26.3	48.1	41.1	24.7	30.4	49.7	29.9
Food, seed, ind. (mil. metric tons)	23.8	25.8	27.9	10.3	6.2	5.5	5.2	11.1	6.6	5.8

¹ Beginning October 1 for corn and sorghum; June 1 for oats and barley. ² Aggregated data for corn, sorghum, oats, and barley.

Fats and oils

	Marketing year ¹			1983			1984			
	1981/82	1982/83	1983/84F	Apr	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
Soybeans										
Wholesale price, No. 1 yellow,										
Chicago (\$/bu.) ²	6.24	6.11	7.90	6.38	8.15	7.88	7.53	7.21	7.80	7.87
Crushings (mil. bu.)	1,029.7	1,108.0	970	81.8	86.6	89.5	93.8	79.2	86.1	74.9
Exports (mil. bu.)	929.1	905.2	760	73.2	69.2	74.5	80.4	79.7	78.8	n.a.
Soybean oil										
Wholesale price, crude, Decatur (cts./lb.)	19.0	20.6	33	19.3	28.1	27.3	28.3	27.2	30.1	32.1
Production (mil. lb.)	10,979.4	12,040.4	10,689	881.3	957.7	991.0	1,052.5	896.9	972.7	849.5
Domestic disappearance (mil. lb.)	9,536.3	9,857.3	9,600	816.9	695.8	636.8	910.9	931.3	780.1	n.a.
Exports (mil. lb.)	2,076.3	2,024.7	1,650	305.7	54.7	95.5	161.3	289.9	258.9	n.a.
Stocks, beginning (mil. lb.)	1,736.1	1,102.5	1,261	1,841.8	1,453.4	1,660.6	1,919.2	1,907.0	1,582.8	1,516.5
Soybean meal										
Wholesale price, 44% protein, Decatur (\$/ton)	182.52	187.19	205	186.75	224.7	216.6	201.9	184.40	196.40	190.00
Production (thou. ton)	24,634.4	26,713.6	22,491	1,949.8	2,049.1	2,122.6	2,220.0	1,872.2	2,029.2	1,786.6
Domestic disappearance (thou. ton)	17,714.4	19,306.0	17,300	1,484.5	1,384.1	1,533.7	1,447.7	1,323.3	1,429.9	n.a.
Exports (thou. ton)	6,907.5	7,108.7	5,450	450.2	617.5	664.7	687.6	578.0	580.8	n.a.
Stocks, beginning (thou. ton)	162.7	175.2	474	341.0	419.3	466.8	391.0	476.8	446.7	460.7
Margarine, wholesale price, Chicago (cts./lb.)	41.4	46.3	n.a.	40.8	52.0	48.3	53.3	52.5	53.2	55.2

¹ Beginning September 1 for soybeans; October 1 for soymeal and oil; calendar year for margarine. ² Beginning April 1, 1982, prices based on 30-day delivery, using upper end of the range. n.a. = not available. F = Forecast.

Cotton

	Marketing year ¹			1983			1984			
	1980/81	1981/82	1982/83	Apr	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
U.S. price, SLM, 1-1/16 in. (cts./lb.) ²	83.0	60.5	63.1	65.3	73.4	73.0	70.6	71.4	74.89	75.6
Northern Europe prices:										
Index (cts./lb.) ³	93.3	73.8	76.7	80.2	89.1	89.4	87.6	87.4	88.43	88.9
U.S. M 1-3/32" (cts./lb.) ⁴	n.a.	75.9	78.0	80.7	88.8	89.3	85.5	85.4	88.20	89.6
U.S. mill consumption (thou. bales)	5,870.5	5,263.8	5,512.8	450.4	468.1	490.4	488.2	464.8	568.8	441.4
Exports (thou. bales)	5,925.8	6,567.3	5,206.8	639.8	462.2	663.2	695.9	758.5	946.8	—

¹ Beginning August 1. ² Average spot market. ³ Liverpool Outlook "A" index: average of five lowest priced of 10 selected growths. ⁴ Memphis territory growths. n.a. = not available.

Fruit

	Annual			1983			1984			
	1981	1982	1983	Apr	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
Producer price indexes										
Fresh fruit (1967=100)	226.7	235.4	250.6	249.7	269.3	258.9	232.9	232.2	320.3	213.2
Dried fruit (1967=100)	405.9	409.7	409.3	411.9	404.3	405.2	404.2	404.6	405.5	408.8
Canned fruit and juice (1967=100)	273.8	283.7	286.8	281.9	294.2	293.9	301.0	311.0	310.5	309.4
Frozen fruit and juice (1967=100)	302.8	305.5	300.9	300.3	303.0	301.8	308.2	339.9	341.9	349.9
F.o.b. shipping point prices										
Apples, Yakima Valley (\$/ctn.) ²	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	*9.81	10.38	10.50	10.75	*12.25	*12.30	*12.38
Pears, Yakima Valley (\$/box) ²	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	*12.31	10.25	10.33	9.88	8.58	6.56	*7.63
Oranges, U.S. avg. (\$/box) ²	11.30	14.10	14.40	10.10	12.05	12.55	12.90	12.30	11.00	12.09
Grapefruit, U.S. avg. (\$/box) ²	10.10	9.36	9.13	8.74	7.74	8.02	9.90	9.70	9.96	10.43
Year ending										
	1981	1982	1983	Apr	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
Stocks, ending										
Fresh apples (mil. lb.)	2,676.1	3,082.3	2,980.6	853.6	3,773.5	2,980.1	2,460.5	1,887.5	1,354.4	912.2
Fresh pears (mil. lb.)	207.9	180.9	250.6	48.8	312.2	250.6	211.7	172.7	122.2	80.5
Frozen fruit (mil. lb.)	545.6	627.5	643.1	387.3	658.2	644.7	616.5	534.5	479.9	444.0
Frozen fruit juices (mil. lb.)	1,127.2	1,157.6	938.1	1,553.4	886.9	924.9	1,088.2	1,309.9	1,396.2	1,408.0

¹ Red Delicious, Washington, extra fancy, carton tray pack, 80-113's. ² D'Anjou, Washington, standard box wrapped, U.S. No. 1, 90-135's. ³ F.O.B. packed fresh. *Control atmosphere storage. n.a. = not available.

Vegetables

	Annual			1983			1984			
	1981	1982	1983	Apr	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
Wholesale prices										
Potatoes, white, f.o.b. East (\$/cwt.)	9.39	6.05	7.76	7.53	9.52	8.60	9.19	9.23	7.96	8.66
Iceberg lettuce (\$/crtn.) ¹	5.27	5.92	6.29	6.04	7.29	7.25	4.03	4.27	4.13	3.12
Tomatoes (\$/crtn.) ²	9.06	7.40	8.69	15.75	6.00	5.14	13.85	15.25	11.95	8.60
Wholesale price index, 10 canned veg. (1967=100)										
235	239	235	232	239	246	242	247	249	249	249
Grower price index, fresh commercial veg. (1977=100)										
135	120	137	154	131	150	171	169	178	185	185

¹ Std. carton 24's f.o.b. shipping point. ² 5 x 6-6 x 6, f.o.b. Fla-Cal.

Sugar

	Annual			1983			1984			
	1981	1982	1983	Apr	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
U.S. raw sugar price, N.Y. (cts./lb.) ¹	19.73	19.92	22.04	22.43	21.83	21.47	21.51	21.90	22.00	22.03
U.S. deliveries (thou. short tons) ²	9,731	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.

¹ Spot Price reported by N.Y. Coffee and Sugar Exchange. Reporting resumed in mid-August 1979 after being suspended November 3, 1977. ² Raw value. ³ Excludes Hawaii. n.a. = not available.

Tobacco

	Annual			1983			1984			
	1981	1982	1983 p	Apr	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
Prices at auctions										
Flue-cured (cts./lb.) ¹	166.4	178.6	177.9	—	153.0	—	—	—	—	—
Burley (cts./lb.) ¹	180.6	180.3	179.5	—	180.5	177.0	174.5	170.5	—	—
Domestic consumption²										
Cigarettes (bil.)	640.0	633.0	603.0	47.5	53.1	43.2	49.9	44.6	n.a.	n.a.
Large cigars (mil.)	3,893	3,807	3,565	259.8	324.4	280.8	276.2	257.5	n.a.	n.a.

¹ Crop year July-June for flue-cured, October-September for burley. ² Taxable removals. n.a. = not available.

Coffee

	Annual			1983			1984			
	1981	1982	1983 p	Apr	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar p	Apr p
Composite green price, N.Y. (cts./lb.)										
122.10	132.00	131.51	125.72	141.92	145.09	143.75	145.02	146.13	145.46	175F
Imports, green bean equivalent (mil. lb.) ¹	2,248	2,352	2,255	172	188	173	226	180	200	—
Annual										
1981	1982	1983 p	July-Sept	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-June	July-Sept	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr p
Roastings (mil. lb.)²										
2,324	2,293	2,239	536	674	554	486	549	650	540F	—

¹ Green and processed coffee. ² Instant soluble and roasted coffee. F = Forecast. p = preliminary.

Supply and Utilization: Crops

Supply and utilization: domestic measure¹

	Area			Production	Total supply ²	Feed and residual	Other domestic use	Exports	Total use	Ending stocks	Farm price ³
	Planted	Harvested	Yield								
	Mil. acres	Bu/acre									
Wheat											
1980/81	80.6	71.0	33.4	2,374	3,279	51	725	1,514	2,290	989	3.91
1981/82*	88.9	81.0	34.5	2,799	3,791	142	714	1,771	2,627	1,164	3.65
1982/83*	87.4	79.0	35.6	2,812	3,984	221	713	1,509	2,443	1,541	3.55
1983/84*	78.8	61.5	39.4	2,425	3,969	425	727	1,425	2,577	1,392	3.50
1984/85*	—	—	—	2,550	3,945	400	725	1,350	2,475	1,470	3.20-3.50
Rice											
1980/81	3.38	3.31	4,413	146.2	172.1	79.7	54.5	91.4	155.6	16.5	12.80
1981/82*	3.83	3.79	4,819	182.7	199.6	79.0	59.6	82.0	150.6	49.0	9.05
1982/83*	3.29	3.26	4,708	153.6	203.3	78.9	54.0	68.9	131.8	71.5	8.11
1983/84*	2.19	2.17	4,598	99.7	171.9	77.0	60.0	62.0	129.0	42.9	8.65
1984/85*	—	—	—	150.0	194.0	79.0	62.0	62.0	133.0	81.0	7.75-9.25
Corn											
1980/81	84.0	73.0	91.0	6,645	8,264	4,139	735	2,355	7,230	1,034	3.11
1981/82*	84.2	74.7	109.8	8,202	9,237	4,276	812	1,967	7,055	2,182	2.50
1982/83*	81.8	73.0	114.5	8,359	10,542	4,634	898	1,870	7,402	3,140	2.68
1983/84*	60.2	51.5	81.6	4,204	7,345	3,975	950	1,900	6,825	520	3.25
1984/85*	—	—	—	7,775	8,296	4,125	1,025	2,025	7,175	1,121	2.65-3.20
Sorghum											
1980/81	15.6	12.5	46.3	579	726	301	11	305	617	109	2.94
1981/82*	16.0	13.7	64.2	879	988	431	11	249	691	297	2.39
1982/83*	16.1	14.2	59.1	841	1,138	515	10	214	739	399	2.52
1983/84*	11.8	9.9	48.8	483	882	400	10	225	635	247	2.85
1984/85*	—	—	—	726	973	425	10	200	635	338	2.35-2.75
Barley											
1980/81	8.3	7.3	49.6	361	563	174	175	77	426	137	2.86
1981/82*	9.7	9.2	52.3	479	626	202	174	100	476	150	2.45
1982/83*	9.6	9.1	57.3	522	683	243	170	147	460	223	2.23
1983/84*	10.6	9.9	52.4	519	749	300	170	100	570	179	2.45
1984/85*	—	—	—	524	713	225	175	70	470	243	2.25-2.65
Oats											
1980/81	13.4	8.7	53.0	458	696	432	74	13	519	177	1.79
1981/82*	13.7	9.4	54.1	509	688	453	76	8	536	152	1.89
1982/83*	14.3	10.6	58.4	621	777	459	85	3	547	230	1.48
1983/84*	20.3	9.1	52.5	477	735	480	80	3	563	172	1.65
1984/85*	—	—	—	512	685	435	80	5	520	165	1.45-1.70
Soybeans											
1980/81	70.0	67.9	26.4	1,792	2,151	489	1,020	724	1,833	318	7.57
1981/82*	67.8	66.4	30.1	2,000	2,318	493	1,030	929	2,052	266	6.04
1982/83*	71.5	69.8	31.9	2,229	2,495	499	1,108	905	2,112	383	5.69
1983/84*	63.5	62.2	25.7	1,595	1,978	143	870	760	1,873	105	7.90
1984/85*	—	—	—	2,075	2,180	90	1,040	835	1,965	215	6.00-8.50
Soybean oil											
1980/81	—	—	—	11,270	12,480	—	9,113	1,631	10,744	1,736	22.7
1981/82*	—	—	—	10,979	12,715	—	9,535	2,077	11,612	1,103	19.0
1982/83*	—	—	—	12,041	13,144	—	9,858	2,025	11,883	1,261	20.6
1983/84*	—	—	—	10,689	11,950	—	9,600	1,650	11,250	700	33.0
1984/85*	—	—	—	11,450	12,150	—	9,800	1,550	11,350	800	26.0-33.0
Soybean meal											
1980/81	—	—	—	24,312	24,538	—	17,591	6,784	24,375	163	218.2
1981/82*	—	—	—	24,634	24,797	—	17,714	6,908	24,622	175	183
1982/83*	—	—	—	26,714	26,889	—	19,306	7,109	26,415	474	187
1983/84*	—	—	—	22,491	22,965	—	17,300	5,450	22,750	215	200
1984/85*	—	—	—	24,750	24,965	—	18,300	6,300	24,600	365	160-200

See footnotes at end of table.

Supply and utilization—domestic measure, continued

	Area		Production	Total supply ²	Feed and residual	Other domestic use	Exports	Total use	Ending stocks	Farm price ³
	Planted	Harvested								
	Mil. acres	lb/acre								
Cotton										
1980/81	14.5	13.2	404	11.1	14.1	—	5.9	6.9	11.8	\$2.7
1981/82*	14.3	13.8	543	15.6	18.3	—	5.3	6.6	11.8	\$6.6
1982/83*	11.3	9.7	590	12.0	18.6	—	5.5	5.2	10.7	\$7.9
1983/84*	7.9	7.4	506	7.8	15.7	—	5.9	7.0	12.9	\$2.9
1984/85*	—	—	—	11.5	14.4	—	5.7	5.5	11.2	\$3.2

Supply and utilization—metric measure⁶

	Mil. hectares		Metric tons/ha	Mil. metric tons							\$/metric ton
	Planted	Harvested		Production	Total supply	Feed and residual	Other domestic use	Exports	Total use	Ending stocks	
Wheat											
1980/81	32.6	28.7	2.25	64.6	89.2	1.4	19.7	41.2	62.3	26.9	144
1981/82*	36.0	32.8	2.32	78.2	103.2	3.9	19.4	48.2	71.5	31.7	134
1982/83*	35.4	32.0	2.39	76.5	108.4	6.0	19.4	41.1	66.5	41.9	130
1983/84*	31.1	24.9	2.65	66.0	108.0	12.2	19.8	38.1	70.1	37.9	129
1984/85*	—	—	—	69.4	107.4	10.9	19.7	36.7	67.3	40.0	118-129
Mil. metric tons (rough equiv.)											
Rice											
1980/81	1.4	1.3	4.95	6.6	7.8	0.4	2.5	4.2	7.1	0.7	282
1981/82*	1.5	1.5	5.40	8.3	9.0	0.4	2.7	3.7	6.8	2.2	200
1982/83*	1.3	1.3	5.28	7.0	9.2	0.4	2.5	3.1	6.0	3.2	179
1983/84*	0.9	0.9	5.15	4.5	7.8	0.3	2.7	2.8	5.9	1.9	187-194
1984/85*	—	—	—	6.8	8.8	0.4	2.8	2.8	8.0	2.8	171-204
Mil. metric tons											
Corn											
1980/81	34.0	29.5	5.72	168.8	209.9	105.1	18.7	59.8	183.6	26.3	122
1981/82*	34.1	30.2	6.90	208.3	234.6	108.6	20.6	50.0	179.2	55.4	98
1982/83*	33.1	29.5	7.20	212.3	257.8	117.7	22.8	47.5	188.0	79.8	106
1983/84*	24.4	20.8	5.13	106.8	186.6	101.0	24.1	48.3	173.4	13.2	128
1984/85*	—	—	—	197.5	210.7	104.8	26.0	51.4	182.2	28.5	104-126
Feed Grain											
1980/81	49.1	41.1	4.82	198.0	250.7	123.0	23.8	69.3	216.1	34.6	—
1981/82*	50.0	43.3	5.74	248.5	283.3	130.6	25.8	58.5	214.9	68.4	—
1982/83*	49.3	43.3	5.87	254.1	322.9	142.7	28.0	54.0	224.7	98.1	—
1983/84*	41.6	32.5	4.22	137.3	236.0	124.6	29.2	56.2	210.1	25.9	—
1984/85*	—	—	—	234.8	260.9	126.8	31.3	58.1	216.2	44.7	—
Soybeans											
1980/81	28.3	27.5	1.78	48.8	58.5	4.24	27.8	19.7	49.9	8.7	278
1981/82*	27.4	26.9	2.03	54.4	63.1	4.25	28.0	25.3	55.8	7.2	222
1982/83*	28.9	28.3	2.15	60.7	67.9	4.27	30.2	24.6	57.5	10.4	209
1983/84*	25.6	25.2	1.73	43.4	53.8	4.39	26.4	20.7	51.0	2.9	290
1984/85*	—	—	—	56.5	59.4	4.26	28.3	22.7	53.8	5.6	220-265
Soybean oil											
1980/81	—	—	—	5.11	5.66	—	4.13	.74	4.87	.79	500
1981/82*	—	—	—	4.98	5.77	—	4.33	.94	5.27	.50	419
1982/83*	—	—	—	5.46	5.96	—	4.47	.92	5.39	.57	454
1983/84*	—	—	—	4.85	5.43	—	4.36	.75	5.06	.32	727
1984/85*	—	—	—	5.19	5.51	—	4.45	.70	5.15	.36	573-727
Soybean meal											
1980/81	—	—	—	22.06	22.26	—	15.96	6.15	22.11	.15	241
1981/82*	—	—	—	22.36	22.51	—	16.08	6.27	22.35	.16	201
1982/83*	—	—	—	24.24	24.39	—	17.52	6.45	23.96	.43	206
1983/84*	—	—	—	20.40	21.01	—	15.69	4.94	20.78	.20	220
1984/85*	—	—	—	22.45	22.65	—	16.60	5.72	22.32	.33	176-220
\$/kg											
Cotton											
1980/81	5.9	5.4	.45	2.42	3.07	—	1.28	1.28	2.56	\$5.59	1.65
1981/82*	5.8	5.6	.61	3.41	3.99	—	1.15	1.43	2.58	\$1.44	1.20
1982/83*	4.6	3.9	.66	2.60	4.05	—	1.20	1.13	2.33	\$1.73	1.31
1983/84*	3.2	3.0	.57	1.69	3.42	—	1.28	1.49	2.77	\$63	1.47
1984/85*	—	—	—	2.50	3.14	—	1.24	1.20	2.44	\$70	—

*May 1, 1984 Supply and Demand Estimates. ¹Marketing year beginning June 1 for wheat, barley, and oats, August 1 for cotton and rice, September 1 for soybeans, and October 1 for corn, sorghum, soymeal, and soyoil. Includes imports. ²Season average. ³Includes seed. ⁴Upland and extra long staple. Stock estimates based on Census Bureau data which results in an unaccounted difference between supply and use estimates and changes in ending stocks.

⁵Conversion factors: Hectare (ha.) = 2.471 acres, 1 metric ton = 2204.622 pounds, 36,743.7 bushels of wheat or soybeans, 39,367.9 bushels of corn or sorghum, 49,929.6 bushels of barley, 69,894.4 bushels of oats, 22,046 cwt. of rice, and 4,594,480-pound bales of cotton. ⁶Statistical discrepancy.

General Economic Data

Gross national product and related data

	Annual			1983				1984
	1981	1982	1983	I	II	III	IV	I
	\$ BIL (Quarterly data seasonally adjusted at annual rates)							
Gross national product¹	2,954.1	3,073.0	3,310.5	3,171.5	3,272.0	3,362.2	3,436.2	3,541.6
Personal consumption expenditures	1,857.2	1,991.9	2,158.0	2,073.0	2,147.0	2,181.1	2,230.9	2,287.8
Durable goods	236.1	244.5	279.4	258.5	277.7	282.8	298.6	314.9
Nondurable goods	733.9	761.0	604.1	777.1	799.6	814.8	825.0	843.3
Clothing and shoes	115.3	119.0	125.6	120.0	126.4	125.1	130.7	134.1
Food and beverages	375.9	396.9	422.1	411.7	419.6	426.4	430.6	440.1
Services	887.1	986.4	1,074.5	1,037.4	1,069.7	1,083.5	1,107.3	1,129.6
Gross Private domestic investment	474.9	414.5	471.9	404.1	450.1	501.1	532.5	600.9
Fixed investment	456.5	439.1	478.4	443.5	464.6	492.5	512.8	531.6
Nonresidential	352.2	348.3	348.4	332.1	336.3	351.0	374.0	384.4
Residential	104.3	90.8	130.0	111.3	128.4	141.5	138.8	147.3
Change in business inventories	18.5	-24.5	-6.4	-39.4	-14.5	8.5	19.6	69.3
Net exports of goods and services	26.3	17.4	-9.0	17.0	-8.5	-18.3	-26.1	-54.6
Exports	368.8	347.6	335.4	326.9	327.1	341.1	346.5	356.8
Imports	342.5	330.2	344.4	309.9	335.6	359.4	372.6	410.4
Government purchases of goods and services	595.7	649.2	689.5	677.4	683.4	698.3	699.0	707.5
Federal	229.2	258.7	274.8	273.5	273.7	278.1	274.1	272.4
State and local	366.5	390.5	414.7	404.0	409.7	420.2	424.9	435.1
1972 \$BIL (Quarterly data seasonally adjusted at annual rates)								
Gross national product	1,513.8	1,485.4	1,535.3	1,490.1	1,525.1	1,553.4	1,572.5	1,606.0
Personal consumption expenditures	956.8	970.2	1,011.4	986.7	1,010.6	1,016.0	1,032.2	1,049.6
Durable goods	141.2	139.8	156.3	145.8	156.5	157.9	165.2	173.9
Nondurable goods	362.5	364.2	376.1	368.9	374.7	378.1	382.5	387.4
Clothing and shoes	83.2	84.4	87.3	84.7	88.4	86.1	90.0	92.8
Food and beverages	181.8	184.0	191.0	188.2	189.4	193.1	193.5	192.6
Services	453.1	466.2	479.0	472.0	479.4	480.1	484.4	488.3
Gross private domestic investment	227.6	194.5	219.0	190.0	210.2	230.7	245.2	276.1
Fixed investment	219.1	203.9	221.1	205.4	215.6	227.0	236.5	246.1
Nonresidential	174.4	166.1	168.4	159.9	163.0	170.1	180.7	187.0
Residential	44.7	37.8	52.7	45.5	52.6	56.8	55.8	59.1
Change in business inventories	8.5	-9.4	-2.1	-15.4	-5.4	3.8	8.7	30.1
Net exports of goods and services	43.0	28.9	11.8	20.5	12.3	11.4	2.8	-10.3
Exports	159.7	147.3	138.7	137.3	136.2	140.7	140.6	143.1
Imports	116.7	118.4	126.9	116.8	123.9	129.2	137.8	153.5
Government purchases of goods and services	286.5	291.8	293.1	292.9	292.1	295.2	292.3	290.7
Federal	110.4	116.6	117.8	118.4	117.6	118.9	116.4	113.6
State and local	176.1	175.2	175.3	174.5	174.5	176.3	175.9	177.0
New plant and equipment expenditures (\$bill.)	321.49	316.43	302.50	293.03	293.46	304.70	318.83	332.66
Implicit price deflator for GNP (1972=100)	195.14	206.88	215.63	212.83	214.55	216.44	218.53	220.52
Disposable income (\$bill.)	2,047.6	2,176.5	2,335.6	2,255.9	2,301.0	2,361.7	2,423.9	2,504.0
Disposable income (1972 \$bill.)	1,054.7	1,060.2	1,094.6	1,073.8	1,083.0	1,100.1	1,121.5	1,148.8
Per capita disposable income (\$)	8,906	9,377	9,969	9,661	9,834	10,069	10,308	10,627
Per capita disposable income (1972 \$)	4,587	4,567	4,672	4,599	4,629	4,690	4,769	4,875
U.S. population, total, incl. military abroad (mil.)	229.9	232.1	234.3	233.5	234.0	234.6	235.1	235.6
Civilian population (mil.)	227.7	229.9	232.0	231.3	231.8	232.4	233.0	233.3

See footnotes at end of next table.

Selected monthly indicators

	Annual			1983			1984			
	1981	1982	1983 p	Apr	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr p
Monthly data seasonally adjusted except as noted										
Industrial production, total ² (1967=100)	151.0	138.6	147.6	142.6	155.3	156.2	158.5	160.1	160.9	163.1
Manufacturing (1967=100)	150.4	137.6	148.2	143.1	156.4	156.8	159.5	161.6	162.4	164.9
Durable (1967=100)	140.5	124.7	134.5	129.1	143.6	145.0	148.6	150.6	151.7	154.4
Non durable (1967=100)	164.8	156.2	168.1	163.3	174.8	173.9	175.2	177.4	177.8	179.9
Leading economic indicators ^{1,3} (1967=100)	140.9	136.8	156.1	152.5	162.9	164.1	164.6	167.0	166.9	167.8
Employment ⁴ (mil. persons)	100.4	99.5	100.8	99.6	102.6	102.9	103.2	103.9	104.1	104.4
Unemployment rate ⁴ (%)	7.5	9.5	9.5	10.2	8.4	8.2	8.0	7.8	7.8	7.8
Personal income ¹ (\$ bil. annual rate)	2,435.0	2,578.6	2,742.1	2,689.0	2,833.5	2,859.6	2,906.5	2,927.4	2,942.3	2,957.1
Hourly earnings in manufacturing ^{4,5} (\$)	7.99	8.50	8.84	8.77	8.99	9.06	9.09	9.08	9.11	9.13
Money stock-M1 (daily avg.) (\$bil.) ⁶	440.6	478.2	525.3	497.9	523.0	525.3	530.0	532.9	535.1	535.1
Money stock-M2 (daily avg.) (\$bil.) ⁶	1,794.9	1,959.5	2,196.1	2,081.8	2,182.1	2,196.1	2,206.6	2,222.0	2,228.8	2,242.1
Three-month Treasury bill rate ⁷ (%)	14.029	10.686	8.63	8.25	8.71	8.96	8.93	9.03	9.44	9.69
Aaa corporate bond yield (Moody's) ⁷ (%)	14.17	13.79	12.04	11.51	12.41	12.57	12.20	12.08	12.57	12.81
Interest rate on new home mortgages ^{1,8} (%)	14.70	15.14	12.57	12.42	12.34	12.42	12.29	12.23	12.02	12.09
Housing starts, private (incl. farm) (thou.)	1,084	1,062	1,703	1,549	1,730	1,694	1,980	2,262	1,645	1,963
Auto sales at retail, total ¹ (mil.)	8.5	8.0	9.2	8.5	9.5	10.5	11.2	10.6	10.0	10.1
Business sales, total ¹ (\$ bil.)	355.8	343.5	367.1	351.0	386.6	395.7	401.1	398.8	400.7p	—
Business inventories, total ¹ (\$ bil.)	523.6	505.5	514.3	500.3	611.5	514.3	518.1	527.2	531.8p	—
Sales of all retail stores (\$ bil.) ⁹	87.0	89.5	97.8	95.1	101.9	102.4	106.6	105.5	103.4p	106.4
Durable goods stores (\$ bil.)	26.3	27.0	32.1	30.7	34.6	35.5	37.1	36.9	34.9p	36.8
Non durable goods stores (\$ bil.)	60.7	62.5	65.7	64.4	67.3	66.9	69.5	68.6	68.4p	69.6
Food stores (\$ bil.)	19.9	20.8	21.6	21.3	22.0	21.8	22.5	22.3	22.4p	22.6
Eating and drinking places (\$ bil.)	8.2	8.6	9.6	9.5	10.0	9.7	10.3	10.3	10.1p	9.9
Apparel and accessory stores (\$ bil.)	4.2	4.3	4.5	4.4	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.8p	5.0

¹ Department of Commerce. ² Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System. ³ Composite index of 12 leading indicators. ⁴ Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. ⁵ Not seasonally adjusted. ⁶ December of the year listed. ⁷ Moody's Investors Service. ⁸ Federal Home Loan Bank Board. ⁹ Adjusted for seasonal variations, holidays, and trading day differences. p = preliminary. r = revised.

U.S. Agricultural Trade

Prices of principal U.S. agricultural trade products

	Annual			1983			1984			
	1981	1982	1983	Apr	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr p
Export commodities										
Wheat, f.o.b. vessel, Gulf ports (\$/bu.)	4.80	4.38	4.30	4.58	4.16	4.17	4.17	4.10	4.22	4.30
Corn, f.o.b. vessel, Gulf ports (\$/bu.)	3.40	2.80	3.49	3.40	3.78	3.67	3.67	3.50	3.78	3.61
Grain sorghum, f.o.b. vessel, Gulf ports (\$/bu.) . .	3.28	2.81	3.34	3.38	3.46	3.33	3.30	3.22	3.40	3.00
Soybeans, f.o.b. vessel, Gulf Ports (\$/bu.)	7.40	6.36	7.31	6.58	8.63	8.26	7.94	7.64	8.26	8.25
Soybean oil, Decatur (cts./lb.)	21.07	18.33	23.51	19.38	27.69	27.37	28.26	27.23	30.11	32.06
Soybean meal, Decatur (\$/ton)	218.65	179.70	200.91	187.18	225.07	218.01	201.23	185.56	196.06	188.41
Cotton, 10 market avg. spot (cts./lb.)	71.93	60.10	68.68	65.34	73.41	73.04	70.55	71.39	74.89	75.64
Tobacco, avg. price of auction (cts./lb.)	156.48	172.20	173.96	174.46	169.97	168.48	168.94	167.58	166.52	166.06
Rice, f.o.b. mill, Houston (\$/cwt.)	25.63	18.89	19.39	19.00	20.00	20.00	20.25	20.25	20.25	20.10
Inedible tallow, Chicago (cts./lb.)	15.27	12.85	13.41	13.56	14.75	15.13	16.00	16.00	16.75	17.00
Import commodities										
Coffee, N.Y. spot (\$/lb.)	1.27	1.41	1.33	1.27	1.46	1.52	1.50	1.51	1.51	1.48
Sugar, N.Y. spot (cts./lb.)	19.73	19.86	22.04	22.43	21.83	21.47	21.51	21.90	22.00	22.03
Rubber, N.Y. spot (cts./lb.)	56.79	45.48	56.19	58.23	58.53	58.08	57.64	58.19	57.77	56.44
Cocoa beans, N.Y. (\$/lb.) . . . . .	.90	.75	.92	.81	.97	1.12	1.15	1.11	1.13	1.13
Bananas, f.o.b. port of entry (\$/40-lb. box)	7.28	6.80	7.93	8.70	6.21	n.a.	8.20	7.56	7.51	7.52

p = preliminary. n.a. = not available.

U.S. agricultural exports by regions

Region and country	October-March		March		Change from year earlier	
	1982/83	1983/84	1983	1984	October-March	March
					\$ MIL.	Percent
Western Europe	5,916	6,063	909	1,073	2	18
European Community	4,422	4,296	678	727	-3	7
Belgium-Luxembourg	482	547	77	87	13	13
France	333	327	45	36	-2	-20
Germany, Fed. Rep.	773	924	109	131	20	20
Italy	466	471	69	83	1	20
Netherlands	1,707	1,405	270	305	18	13
United Kingdom	448	459	60	65	2	8
Other Western Europe	1,494	1,768	231	346	18	50
Portugal	324	459	59	106	42	80
Spain	744	888	110	173	19	57
Switzerland	217	223	37	44	3	19
Eastern Europe	363	395	63	64	9	0
German Dem. Rep.	74	91	20	14	23	-30
Poland	123	113	17	20	-8	18
USSR	757	1,290	137	298	70	118
Asia	7,033	8,098	1,257	1,462	15	16
West Asia (Mideast)	737	916	137	220	24	61
Turkey	8	85	(1)	51	963	100
Iraq	121	155	44	56	28	27
Israel	163	199	22	27	22	23
Saudi Arabia	243	261	32	43	7	34
South Asia	666	518	108	106	-22	2
India	493	314	77	34	-36	-56
Pakistan	65	107	2	40	65	1,900
East and Southeast Asia	5,631	6,663	1,012	1,136	18	12
China	478	372	86	58	-22	-33
Taiwan	605	778	108	175	29	62
Japan	2,966	3,733	500	600	26	20
Korea, Rep.	778	966	172	176	24	2
Hong Kong	174	214	27	35	23	30
Africa	953	1,312	236	314	38	33
North Africa	603	651	151	185	8	23
Morocco	117	125	34	44	7	29
Algeria	54	94	11	15	74	36
Egypt	411	378	102	116	-8	14
Other Africa	350	661	85	129	89	52
Nigeria	157	189	24	37	20	54
Rep. S. Africa	50	295	15	52	490	247
Latin America and Caribbean	2,110	2,698	409	431	28	5
Brazil	187	244	42	14	30	-67
Caribbean Islands	386	412	66	70	7	6
Colombia	131	119	20	24	-9	20
Mexico	714	1,016	196	206	42	5
Peru	81	123	10	5	52	-50
Venezuela	297	406	36	58	37	61
Canada	889	908	160	163	2	2
Oceania	117	120	17	20	2	18
Total²	18,139	20,884	3,188	3,823	15	20

¹ Less than \$500,000. ² Totals may not add due to rounding.

U.S. agricultural imports

	October-March				March			
	1982/83	1983/84	1982/83	1983/84	1983	1984	1983	1984
	Thou. units		\$ Thou.		Thou. units		\$ Thou.	
Animals, live (no.)	767	919	291,464	331,119	106	194	46,222	51,094
Meats and preps., excl. poultry (mt)	448	414	1,007,842	895,698	77	78	171,212	161,263
Beef and veal (mt)	311	266	632,323	566,285	52	50	106,927	102,706
Pork (mt)	125	136	345,666	297,916	22	25	58,130	52,702
Dairy products (mt)	153	172	386,247	381,446	20	29	46,846	56,046
Poultry and Products	—	—	39,179	63,026	—	—	6,267	14,697
Fats, oils, and greases (mt)	4	7	2,885	4,118	1	1	834	658
Hides and skins, incl. furskins	—	—	97,854	114,917	—	—	22,299	29,153
Wool, unmanufactured (mt)	16	32	55,227	103,937	3	5	10,895	15,032
Grains and feeds (mt)	731	846	218,652	267,371	118	189	48,327	49,025
Fruits, nuts, and preparations	—	—	892,028	1,011,673	—	—	154,422	207,174
Bananas and Plantains (mt)	1,324	1,388	298,343	340,717	209	247	47,555	62,278
Vegetables and preparations (mt)	916	1,242	601,353	722,971	210	331	169,554	187,413
Tobacco, unmanufactured (mt)	88	100	255,962	295,854	15	18	45,244	55,314
Cotton, unmanufactured (mt)	5	16	3,960	7,623	1	2	506	1,268
Seeds (mt)	59	51	55,141	55,454	24	14	19,542	13,498
Nursery stock and cut flowers	—	—	110,379	139,999	—	—	19,427	24,628
Sugar, cane or beet (mt)	1,217	1,645	455,741	657,097	127	252	50,673	104,965
Oilseeds and products (mt)	515	681	236,358	419,358	84	97	39,961	67,491
Oilseeds (mt)	95	136	40,050	55,761	15	20	7,301	6,646
Protein meal (mt)	46	70	7,295	12,964	7	10	1,208	1,756
Vegetable oils (mt)	374	475	189,012	350,633	62	68	31,451	57,089
Beverages excl. fruit juices (hl)	5,909	6,360	655,160	727,092	958	1,030	100,244	107,513
Coffee, tea, cocoa, spices, etc. (mt)	941	853	2,167,496	2,206,919	137	165	320,799	427,324
Coffee, incl. products (mt)	572	540	1,525,452	1,543,730	85	90	227,412	267,938
Cocoa beans and products (mt)	273	211	468,302	459,926	37	55	64,886	118,744
Rubber and allied gums (mt)	331	423	270,233	446,730	50	76	42,403	84,947
Other	—	—	330,659	404,762	—	—	60,555	76,448
Total	—	—	8,133,820	9,257,164	—	—	1,376,232	1,734,951

Trade balance

	October-March				March			
	1982/83	1983/84	1983	1984	\$ Mil.			
	\$ Mil.				\$ Mil.			
Exports								
Agricultural	18,139	20,884	3,188	3,823				
Nonagricultural	79,287	81,808	14,725	15,269				
Total¹	97,426	102,692	17,913	19,092				
Imports								
Agricultural	8,134	9,257	1,376	1,735				
Nonagricultural	108,248	139,048	18,887	25,750				
Total²	116,382	148,305	20,263	27,485				
Trade balance								
Agricultural	10,005	11,627	1,812	2,088				
Nonagricultural	-28,961	-57,240	-4,162	-10,481				
Total	-18,956	-45,613	-2,350	-8,393				

¹ Domestic exports including Department of Defense shipments (F.A.S. value). ² Imports for consumption (customs value).

U.S. agricultural exports

	October-March				March			
	1982/83	1983/84	1982/83	1983/84	1983	1984	1983	1984
	Thou. units		\$ Thou.		Thou. units		\$ Thou.	
Animals, live (no.)	378	354	108,874	123,816	41	62	9,944	6,142
Meats and preps., excl. poultry (mt)	208	221	472,263	482,115	38	42	89,539	99,493
Dairy products (mt)	151	196	160,460	166,825	22	31	30,106	28,594
Poultry meats (mt)	131	111	144,133	142,671	23	19	24,714	26,027
Fats, oils, and greases (mt)	745	756	302,401	352,344	103	168	41,395	82,640
Hides and skins incl. funkins	—	—	561,207	661,721	—	—	112,592	153,451
Cattle hides, whole (no.)	12,097	12,000	369,425	476,417	2,249	2,531	71,229	106,872
Mink pelts (no.)	1,601	1,534	42,420	41,550	360	414	9,077	11,992
Grains and feeds (mt)	53,730	55,674	7,503,717	8,954,265	9,261	9,848	1,408,908	1,582,772
Wheat and wheat flour (mt)	19,603	19,431	3,191,417	3,140,302	3,699	3,379	606,095	538,649
Rice (mt)	918	1,041	374,649	426,072	225	219	93,364	86,639
Feed grains, excl. products (mt)	29,433	31,000	3,222,072	4,558,219	4,875	5,361	587,311	785,963
Feeds and fodders (mt)	3,384	3,738	567,021	661,932	416	818	99,942	142,675
Other grain products (mt)	392	464	148,558	167,740	46	71	23,196	28,846
Fruits, nuts, and preparations (mt)	1,059	1,030	963,721	916,457	180	166	151,733	139,269
Vegetables and preparations (mt)	800	799	520,154	535,040	128	139	86,060	96,229
Tobacco, unmanufactured (mt)	150	151	914,726	956,004	21	20	134,651	125,775
Cotton, excl. linters (mt)	536	827	770,825	1,308,266	112	206	159,203	332,605
Seeds (mt)	140	130	192,416	198,876	19	21	25,996	27,993
Sugar, cane or beet (mt)	22	159	6,265	41,972	1	29	805	8,665
Oilseeds and products (mt)	20,413	17,267	4,918,707	5,386,822	3,248	3,172	807,077	1,012,471
Oilseeds (mt)	15,397	12,982	3,576,074	3,946,531	2,317	2,417	544,323	732,290
Soybeans (mt)	14,584	12,251	3,336,198	3,638,480	2,296	2,146	535,977	621,436
Protein meal (mt)	4,241	3,509	919,589	867,582	785	545	173,276	133,172
Vegetable oils (mt)	775	776	423,044	572,729	139	209	79,849	147,008
Essential oils (mt)	4	5	42,967	53,830	1	1	10,084	6,785
Other	—	—	556,321	583,465	—	—	95,449	92,324
Total	—	—	18,139,157	20,884,489	—	—	3,188,056	3,823,235

Indexes of nominal and real trade-weighted dollar exchange rates

	1983								1984			
	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
April 1971=100												
Total agriculture												
Nominal ¹	318.0	329.2	354.4	384.1	403.2	429.8	454.4	478.4	505.7	538.8	580.4	619.3
Real ²	90.9	92.3	94.5	96.9	96.0	94.7	95.9	*96.8	*97.2	*96.1	*93.8	*94.9
Soybeans												
Nominal	140.9	143.7	145.8	149.1	149.3	148.8	152.3	155.3	157.5	155.1	152.9	155.6
Real	85.4	87.9	89.9	91.9	91.4	89.7	91.4	*92.9	*93.7	*91.6	*88.5	*89.5
Wheat												
Nominal	1,085.0	1,157.7	1,290.1	1,443.6	1,553.3	1,713.1	1,843.4	1,972.7	2,126.0	2,332.2	2,588.1	2,802.4
Real	96.7	96.6	99.6	103.3	101.6	101.1	101.6	*101.5	*101.3	*101.3	*99.7	*100.7
Corn												
Nominal	320.9	333.0	354.5	382.1	400.4	424.5	448.3	471.1	497.1	526.2	563.2	599.2
Real	88.7	90.7	93.6	95.6	95.0	93.5	95.0	*96.1	*96.8	*95.1	*92.2	*93.0
Cotton												
Nominal	155.7	155.9	157.0	158.9	159.9	163.4	180.2	181.4	182.5	181.4	179.8	180.7
Real	88.3	89.7	90.6	91.6	91.3	91.6	94.1	*94.5	*94.1	*93.7	*91.8	*91.8

¹ Nominal values are percentage changes in currency units per dollar, weighted by proportion of agricultural exports from the United States. An increase indicates that the dollar has appreciated. ² Real values are computed in the same way as the nominal series, adjusted for CPI changes in the countries involved.

*Preliminary: assumes the same rate of CPI increase/decrease as the previous month.

World Agricultural Production

World supply and utilization of major crops

	1978/79	1979/80	1980/81	1981/82	1982/83 p	1983/84 F	1984/85 F
Mil. units							
Wheat							
Area (hectare)	228.9	227.6	236.6	239.7	239.2	228.1	—
Production (metric ton)	446.8	422.8	442.4	450.0	480.6	489.5	498.0
Exports (metric ton) ¹	72.0	86.0	94.1	101.3	98.3	101.1	101.0
Consumption (metric ton) ²	430.2	443.5	442.6	445.5	469.1	482.8	498.2
Ending stocks (metric ton) ³	100.9	80.4	80.9	85.4	96.9	103.6	103.4
Coarse grains							
Area (hectare)	342.8	341.1	342.3	348.4	333.6	332.3	—
Production (metric ton)	753.6	741.5	730.5	770.6	785.2	686.4	793.8
Exports (metric ton) ¹	90.2	98.8	108.8	98.7	91.5	91.5	95.0
Consumption (metric ton) ²	748.1	740.3	739.8	741.6	758.1	761.6	772.9
Ending stocks (metric ton) ³	91.2	91.6	83.7	112.9	140.0	64.8	85.7
Rice, milled							
Area (hectare)	144.1	143.1	144.5	145.3	140.7	144.3	—
Production (metric ton)	260.7	253.9	271.0	280.6	285.8	302.8	304.7
Exports (metric ton) ¹	11.6	12.7	13.0	11.8	11.9	11.7	11.8
Consumption (metric ton) ²	255.8	257.8	272.2	281.5	290.3	303.2	305.5
Ending stocks (metric ton) ³	27.7	23.4	22.1	21.2	16.8	16.3	15.5
Total grains							
Area (hectare)	715.8	711.8	723.4	733.4	713.5	704.7	—
Production (metric ton)	1,461.1	1,418.2	1,443.9	1,501.2	1,551.6	1,478.7	1,596.5
Exports (metric ton) ¹	173.8	197.5	215.9	211.8	201.7	204.3	207.8
Consumption (metric ton) ²	1,434.1	1,441.9	1,454.6	1,468.6	1,517.5	1,547.6	1,576.6
Ending stocks (metric ton) ³	219.8	195.4	186.7	219.5	253.7	184.7	204.6
Oilseeds and meals⁴							
Production (metric ton)	82.1	89.8	87.5	92.5	98.4	88.6	98.0
Trade (metric ton)	40.6	51.8	48.6	54.1	54.0	50.9	51.5
Fats and oils⁵							
Production (metric ton)	48.5	52.0	52.4	55.2	58.3	56.1	57.8
Trade (metric ton)	19.3	20.7	19.7	21.2	21.3	20.3	21.9
Cotton							
Area (hectare)	32.4	32.2	32.4	33.2	32.3	31.7	—
Production (bale)	60.0	65.5	65.3	70.8	67.4	67.6	73.5
Exports (bale)	19.8	22.7	19.7	20.2	18.6	18.8	19.0
Consumption (bale)	62.4	65.3	65.8	65.5	67.6	69.3	71.2
Ending stocks (bale)	22.1	23.0	24.1	28.7	28.9	27.3	29.5

F = Forecast. p = preliminary. ¹ Excludes intra-EC trade. ² Where stocks data not available (excluding USSR), consumption includes stock changes.

³ Stocks data are based on differing marketing years and do not represent levels at a given date. Data not available for all countries. Includes estimated change in USSR grain stocks but not absolute level. ⁴ Soybean meal equivalent. ⁵ Calendar year data. 1979 data correspond with 1978/79, etc. Excludes safflower, sesame, and castor oil.

Rail rates; grain and fruit-vegetable shipments

	Annual			1983			1984			
	1981	1982	1983	Apr	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
Rail freight rate index¹										
All products (1969=100)	327.8	351.4	355.8	355.3	357.0	357.2	370.7p	370.7p	371.0p	371.1p
Farm products (1969=100)	315.0	337.2	342.9	342.0	344.1	345.6	357.7p	357.7p	357.7p	357.7p
Grain (Dec. 1978=100)	148.1	159.5	160.2	160.0	160.7	160.7	167.2p	167.2p	167.2p	161.2p
Food products (1969=100)	329.4	353.2	356.6	356.4	357.2	357.2	371.9p	371.9p	371.9p	371.9p
Rail carloadings of grain (thou. cars) ²	26.3	24.9	26.1	21.4	29.5	25.9	31.1	29.2	27.7	27.0
Barge shipments of grain (mil. bu.) ³	36.3	41.2	40.8	34.0	44.7	38.5	26.2	22.6	36.8	38.7
Fresh fruit and vegetable shipments										
Piggy back (thousand cwt.) ^{3,4}	262	387	551	490	514	597	516	500	617	666
Rail (thou. cwt.) ^{3,4}	888	698	769	686	701	723	957	813	755	628
Truck (thou. cwt.) ^{3,4}	7,769	7,849	7,873	8,126	7,550	7,753	6,847	6,697	7,510	8,817

¹ Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, revised April 1982. ² Weekly average; from Association of American Railroads. ³ Weekly average, from Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA. ⁴ Preliminary data for 1984. p = preliminary.

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Little Movement in Prices Paid and Received

1977=100

160

140

Index of prices received by farmers[○]

120

100

80

60

40

Percent

180

160

140

120

Index of prices paid by farmers[□]

100

80

Ratio of prices received to prices paid by farmers

1973 1974 1975 1976 1977 1978 1979 1980 1981 1982 1983 1984

○ For all farm products. □ For commodities, services, interest, taxes, and wage rates.